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Politics and General Literature.

[VI]

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SUMMARY OF NEWS.

— 749 —

Politics of Europe.

Revolution and Revolutionary Doctrines.—We are thoroughly convinced that no measures of a searching nature will be adopted with respect to Ireland; and it is only by measures of such a description that any good can be done to that unfortunate country.

In the discussion of Thursday (June 16), in the House of Commons, Lord Londonderry seemed to think the existence of tithes in all their oppressiveness necessary to secure Ireland "against those dangerous and revolutionary doctrines, the yielding to which had produced such desolation and devastation in the world." One would think the very naming of Ireland ought to be sufficient to silence the declaimers against revolutions and revolutionary doctrines.—Where, in God's name, can a country be found in Europe, revolutionised or not revolutionised (Turkey hardly excepted), exhibiting the same extent of human wretchedness, and abounding so much with abuses of every description; Even the serf of Poland blesses his stars that he is not an Irishman; that his condition, bad as it is, is still so much superior to that of the peasantry whom a foreign writer calls the Lazzaroni of the North, by a comparison which, however, is founded rather on a supposition of what is, than that it really is the condition of the lower orders of Naples, who have many sources of enjoyment unknown to the poor native race of the Sister Island.

Before we proceed any further, we shall endeavour to throw a little light on the subject of revolution and revolutionary doctrines.

We believe there is no instance of a revolution, properly so called, taking place in a country in which industry and property are tolerably protected, in which the laws have in view the common good, and not the advantage of a few at the expense of the many, and in which these laws are accessible to all, and fairly and impartially administered. Whether the Government be absolute or free, if these essential requisites be afforded to the mass of the people, it is next to impossible that a violent revolution should ever take place. Men are governed in their conduct by a regard to their interests, and where they feel themselves interested in upholding an existing order of things, they will naturally do so. Where they are not in a state of destitution, but in the secure enjoyment of certain comforts, they are naturally afraid of exposing them to hazard by any thing like a convulsion. Wretchedness and abuses are every where the parents of violence and convulsions. If men are afraid to hazard the loss of their enjoyments, those who have no enjoyments are without the influence of any such restraint. In countries, therefore, in which the mass of the people feel that their situation cannot be worse—that they have every thing to hope and nothing to dread from a change, the danger of revolution, in one shape or other, may be said to be perpetually present.

If we take a survey of Europe at this moment, we shall find abundant proof of these positions. Let us take Italy for instance. Those parts which are worst governed are in the most revolutionary state, while those parts which are well governed are perfectly secure. The worst governed parts of Italy are, unquestionably, Naples and the Ecclesiastical territories; and these are precisely the Revolutionary countries. No-

thing can be more deplorable than the whole system of government and law in the Papal dominions. All manner of robberies can be practised under the name of law, and property is hardly worth any thing, from the restrictions to which it is subject. One institution, the Aunona, is quite sufficient of itself to ruin any country. No corn whatever can be expected but by the Prefect of the Aunona, or by his leave; nor can it be removed from one parish to another without his consent, unless it be to convey it to Rome. If an attempt is made to convey corn from one parish to another, except in the direction of Rome, it is liable to be seized as contraband. Neither is it lawful to sell corn to an individual when the Prefect of the Aunona tells the proprietor to keep it at his disposal. The President of the Grascia has nearly the same powers with respect to cattle. The consequence of all this is, that the country presents every where a dreary prospect of waste, desolation, and neglect, and the people are miserably clad and badly fed. The Austrians are in perpetual apprehension from this part of Italy, but they have little dread of any insurrectionary movement in their own possessions in Lombardy.—The people there do the Austrians the honour of hating them cordially, but they are industrious, rich and calculating, and will not rise till they see a tolerable fair prospect of doing so without risk.—Tuscany is the best governed country of all Italy, perhaps of all Europe, and it is the least disposed to revolution.—When the Grand Duke LEOPOLDO, the best and wisest Sovereign that ever lived, came to the Throne, he found Tuscany a prey to the Aunona like Rome, oppressed by bad laws badly administered, and swarming with Ecclesiastics, the number of religious persons for a country with only a million of inhabitants, being above 20,000 of both sexes. He abolished tithes. He abolished all restrictions on industry and commerce. He abolished all inequalities of taxation, and simplified all matters of administration. He reformed the Church. He gave a good system of law, and a good administration of it to his subjects. The result was, that Tuscany soon became in his hands a perfect garden. The people have ever since been contented and rich. There are no Carbonari in Tuscany, and the Government of that country does not entertain the smallest dread of its own subjects.

We witness the same thing out of Italy—Denmark and Saxony, for instance, have long enjoyed the advantage of a mild and conscientious Governments, and the people are proportionally attached to them. Some of the Governments of the South of Germany, as Wurtemburgh, for instance, and perhaps Bavaria, are also in good estimation with their subjects. In short, wherever the Governments are at all conscientious, the people are disposed to be satisfied. What rendered revolution so easy in Spain and Portugal, but the dreadful misgovernment to which these countries were a prey?

So much for Lord Londonderry's idea that redressing the grievances of a country opens a door to revolution.

Of all Governments the Aristocratical is the worst.—Call a Government by whatsoever name you please, Republic or Monarchy, wherever the aristocratical element preponderates it is sure to be bad. The Aristocracy will always seek to promote their own separate interests at the expense of the community. Denmark and Tuscany are absolute Governments, and they are good Governments; but there is no instance of a good aristocratical

Government.—Indeed, down to the time of the French Revolution the great enemies of all reforms in every country were the privileged orders, every where the great fomenters of disturbances; and the people and Sovereigns went generally hand in hand in opposition to them.

Now, unfortunately, the Government of Ireland is in the hands not merely of an Aristocracy, but an Aristocracy necessarily of the very worst description.

In countries where there is any thing like an enlightened public opinion, the Aristocracy are obliged to pay more or less deference to it; but in Ireland, the ruling caste has no public opinion to dread. In such a case, the treatment of the lower orders cannot be supposed to occupy any place in their code of morality. In England the gentry do stand in awe of public opinion; and in the country of Scotland, perhaps, they are still more alive to it. This at least we know, that any Landholder of the South of Scotland, who should presume to insult his tenantry, by inviting them to dine with his servants, a very common thing in England, would probably feel little disposition to renew the invitation.

While there is no public opinion to aid the laws, we can anticipate no good from any measures that shall not take the power out of the hands of an Aristocracy like that of Ireland. The laws of England require the correction of a strong public opinion; and in Hindoostan and in Ireland where there is none, they are utterly inoperative to the protection of the people. We can indeed conceive no laws more deserving of the character which the Poet Goldsmith gave to them, namely, furnishing the means of grinding the poor, for from their uncertainty, their expensiveness, and other properties, they place the poor completely at the mercy of the rich. It is not by English laws and English Magistrates that Ireland can ever be tranquillized. Her extraordinary situation demands extraordinary remedies. If the system of Police Magistracy go to protect the peasantry from their superiors, and to place justice more within the reach of the poor, we approve of it; but we are afraid Government will never dare to go the necessary lengths in this respect.—*Morning Chronicle*.

State of the Kingdom.—Bacon set forth with admirable order and method the state of the kingdom at the close of Elizabeth's reign; with a few very slight verbal alterations and omissions, the description will be found to apply most closely to the present times. We almost wonder, indeed, that some Tory Member did not discover the resemblance, when Mr. Western quoted the passage on Tuesday, but perhaps it wanted those little emendations and corrections, we now give it, to be rendered applicable to the circumstances of the day.

"There was never the like number of fair and stately barracks as have been built and set up from the ground since his Majesty's reign; and whereof the meanest was never built for ten thousand pounds."

"There was never the like pleasure of goodly woods and covers for game, adorning every mansion house, with store of spring guns, set in fair order of concealment to shoot and tear off the limbs of those that wander or stray thereon."

"There was never the like number of beautiful and decent tombs and monuments, which are erected in sundry churches in honourable memory of the dead who fell innocent victims of military execution, and sanctioned butchery."

"There was never the like quantity of plate, jewels, sumptuous moveables, and stuffs in pawn, as is now within the realm."

"There was never the like quantity of waste."

"There was never the like husbandry of all sorts of grounds, nor less temptation thereto in respect of worldly profit and advantage, whereby the virtue is the purer, being cleansed with the dross of self interest."

"The goals were never better built, nor peopled, nor the principal places of punishment better customed or frequented."

"The commodities and ease of the people filched by taxes, and brought into a new channel; of Peers that have been made

and the poor that have been forced and brought against the ground, were never so many."

"There was never such complete and honourable provision of horse, arms, weapons, ordinance of war, as in this time of profound peace."

"There was never so many excellent artificers, nor so little work for them, nor so many new handicrafts used and exercised, especially that practised by his Majesty's servants, vulgarly called picking pockets and the like; nor new places, pensions, and sinecures made within the realm and the like."

"The fifth blessing has been the great population, and multitude of families exported within his Majesty's days; for which point I refer myself to divers Act of Parliament, and sundry other tokens on record of the leniency of the Government."

Ireland.—In Nichol's ILLUSTRATION OF LITERATURE just published, is a letter from Viscount Lanesborough* to Dr. Busby, dated Dublin, Feb. 5, 1687-8, from which we give an extract, very applicable to the present times, except that no complaint is made of the real cause of distress—*misrule*:—

"I can say nothing as to this kingdom, but what all sides own and lament, the extreme poverty which is come on it, and which daily threatens to increase. Where I myself have a 1000l. due, I cannot by any means get 100l. nor indeed is it in the power of the tenant, by any industry, to make money of what the country produces. It is a strange alteration since I was last in this country, which really I did not believe, nor can any one that does not see it. * * * Many that had very plentiful fortunes, might want bread if this fall of traffic and deserting of traders proceed much farther, or do not mend."—Vol. IV. p. 405.

The Royal Society.—Thursday night his Royal Highness Christian Frederick Prince of Denmark, attended the sitting of the Royal Society, in order to his being admitted a Fellow, in pursuance of the resolution of the Society the preceding week, as in the case of such distinguished individuals they dispense with the usual forms, and proceed to ballot on the evening they are proposed. His Highness was received by the President, Sir Humphrey Davy, the Council of the Society, and one of the fullest Sittings known for a long time, with all the honours due to his exalted rank and scientific acquirements. He appeared much gratified by the handsome and well-merited encomium addressed to him on his admission, by the President, and much amused at being called upon as a Member immediately after, to vote on the election of Captain Ross. His Royal Highness afterwards visited the Library, and inspected many curious and scientific instruments, particularly that invented by Captain Kater, to ascertain the vibration of the pendulum, &c. He received the same complimentary honours on leaving Somerset House as at his reception. It is not generally known that this is the fourth year in which this Prince, with his amiable Princess, who is nearly related to our King, has been travelling in the south of Europe in search of useful knowledge, during which their mild and affable deportment has endeared them to every one who has been honoured with their notice.—*Morning Chronicle*, June 17.

Instances of Spanish Patriotism.—The commander and officers of the 16th Regiment of the Line, stationed in Valencia, have petitioned the Cortes that their pay may be reduced.

Don Asensio Nobot petitioned the Cortes that he might be permitted to proceed against the insurgents without fee or reward.

A silversmith at Madrid has petitioned the Cortes to be permitted to clean all the plate used in the palace of that august body without any other reward than the honour of serving them. This worthy citizen's name is Don Placido de Martinez Saenz.

* This was the "seher Lanesborough," whom Pope celebrates as "dancing in the gout" at an advanced age, and long after his legs were disabled by that malady. At the death of Prince George of Denmark, he demanded an audience of the Queen, to advise her to preserve her health and dispel her grief, by dancing.

Dr. Richardson's Travels.—Dr. Richardson, a medical gentleman, who accompanied Lord and Lady Belmore to Greece, Constantinople, and Upper Egypt, in the years 1816, 1817, and 1818, has just published, in two octavo volumes a narrative of the expedition and of the sights and incidents which it afforded. To have written a curious and interesting work, the materials of which were drawn in a great degree from the same sources which Mr. Belzoni was supposed to have already more than half exhausted, bespeaks no common merit; and to this Dr. Richardson may unquestionably lay claim. Although he has gone over much of the same ground with that most distinguished of Egyptian travellers, Dr. Richardson has neither tamely trodden in his footsteps, nor dishonestly appropriated any part of the literary or antiquarian spoils of Belzoni. The book seldom or never flags: it is full of matter, sometimes of necessity trivial, though oftener valuable, according to the circumstances into which his frequent change of scene and subject appears to have thrown the author. With an ignorance of, or contempt for, the art of book-making, which now and then offends on the score of taste, but more generally enlivens us by its racy simplicity, the learned Doctor goes earnestly forward, describing accurately, commenting fearlessly, reasoning with good sense and acuteness on whatever comes before him; while in careless, unpretending, and even colloquial language, he evinces a warm and benevolent disposition, a considerable share of classical and historical research, and, above all that sacred reverence for truth which is foremost among the virtues of a traveller. The points which on a cursory reading strike us as most worthy of attention in this book, are—1st, The close of the second chapter, from page 27, where the author urges with much force, and on grounds which seem to us to be both solid and original, the expediency of searching for a key to the hieroglyphics among the remains of Alexandria, in preference to any other part of Egypt, ruined although that noble city has been by the repeated ravages of the Romans, the Saracens, and the Turks. 2d, The dissertation in the 6th chapter on the subject of the far-famed zodiac of Tentyra. From the assumption that this same assemblage of figures was what the French savans chose to call it—a real old Egyptian zodiac, we all recollect what edifying assaults were made by certain periodical critics in this country upon the authenticity of the Mosaic account of the creation. Now Dr. Richardson adduces a strong phalanx of facts, descriptions, and arguments, to prove that the zodiac is no more a zodiac than a town-clock; and therefore (what undoubtedly will not affect our minds, as believers in the truth of Scripture, with much astonishment) that the chronology of Moses is still unimpeached: and that critics and savans, whether at Paris or Edinburgh, have been egregiously, nay, somewhat ridiculously, mistaken. 3d, The author's conjecture respecting the subterraneous communication between the magnificent tombs in the valley of Biban el Melook, (in the number of which was that beautiful one, discovered, represented, exhibited, and now at length disposed of by Mr. Belzoni) and the ancient temple of Northern Bair. 4th, The author's admission into and description of the great Mosque at Jerusalem, standing on the site of Solomon's temple, into which Dr. Richardson, from the interest he had acquired with Omar Effendi, was permitted to enter, and was the first Christian traveller who had ever been so favoured. Upon the whole, we are disposed to consider this work as a substantial and valuable addition to our knowledge of the topography and monumental relics of the East. We regret that our limits will not allow us to illustrate the above observations by an extract.

Ionian Islands.—The business of the Ionian Islands (not omitting Parga) forms altogether an ugly blot on the history of this country. Indeed we know no one bold enough openly to defend the proceedings in that quarter. From the apathy, however, displayed in the House of Commons at transactions which have excited the most indignant feelings against this country, in most parts of the Continent, one would suppose that there is no longer any sensibility to national honour among us. We do not require the presence of foreigners with representations to enlighten us on the subject. We have only to look to the official papers published

by the Government itself,—we have only to look to THE GAZETTE. —Why it was but the other day that accounts of Courts-Martial in the Ionian Islands published here, told us that the principal natives of these Islands had been seized and imprisoned, not as criminals, but merely as hostages. Why, our allies the Turks never go such lengths. And yet no Member of Parliament takes the least notice of these things. They are considered as mere ordinary occurrences—as part of a regular system. In former times, such an unchallenged verdict of a British Jury as was given against Sir THOMAS MAITLAND, for having, “contrary to the Articles of War, without the order of his MAJESTY, and without any sentence by a General Court-martial, or authority from his MAJESTY, or the Commander in Chief, issued and published a certain General Order, by which he, Sir THOMAS MAITLAND, as Commander of the Forces, directed that the pay of Lieut.-Col. DE BOSSET, as inspecting Field Officer of Militia, should cease; falsely alleging in the said Order that his MAJESTY had declared the services of the plaintiff in that office to be inexpedient.”—Such a verdict, we say, against a man in the higher and confidential situation of Sir THOMAS MAITLAND, would at least have excited some attention in one or other of our Legislative bodies. But as it did not, we can hardly be surprised at the dreadful measures which have since been pursued in the Ionian Islands. It is supposed that the neighbourhood of Turkey forms a justification for the Turkish system? Or is magnitude of abuse the best means of silencing complaint?

Commerce.—Lord LIVERPOOL told us last night (June 18.) in the House of Lords—“With regard to the additional freedom given to commerce, it was only necessary for him to observe, that it was a great mistake to suppose that our country, by throwing obstacles in the way of other countries, could benefit itself. Nothing could be more true, than that the more other countries increased in wealth and prosperity, the greater would be the advantage to our own commerce and manufactures. The distress of our manufacturers arose from the want of adequate returns; let other countries go on increasing in wealth and prosperity, and there was scarcely any limit that could be assigned to the returns that might be received by our manufacturers for the products of their capital and industry.” All this is very well, and indeed almost surprising in a British Minister, for we cannot but recollect the silly boasts that used to be made in Parliament up to a comparatively recent period, of the great excess of the exports over the imports, which, if true, would only have proved that adequate returns had not been received. But if Mr. HUSKISSON, Lord LIVERPOOL, and Mr. ROBINSON, know somewhat more of these matters than the Heaven-born Statesman did, we wonder they do not set about imparting some of their knowledge to the Country Gentlemen, who seem to have set their minds on two very bad things, namely, the preventing us from receiving adequate returns and the breaking faith with the public creditor,—that is on general poverty and convulsion,—as a remedy for all our evils.—What a curious production the dissection of the speeches of five or six Members of the House of Commons on subjects of this nature, pursued during four or five years, would prove!—What inconsistencies! What contradictions! We allude even to men of good natural abilities, but who unfortunately will not give themselves the trouble to think and labour, and who yet will speak on subjects which demand both toil and reflection. It cannot be too often inculcated that there is no royal road to knowledge, and that wit and attempts at eloquence will not supply the want of it. We have now more particularly in our eye an Honourable Member with good natural abilities, and we believe the best intentions, who, if he had not been born rich, might probably have turned his talents to good account, but who listening to the suggestions of the indolence which so often accompanies the profession of wealth, seems to have supposed that natural abilities preclude the necessity of mental labour, and who, when he speaks on certain subjects, betrays an ignorance and inconsistency which his powers of language only serve to render more conspicuous.—*Morning Chronicle.*

Turks in Scio.—The conduct of the Turks in Scio promises to be of great advantage to the Greek cause. A part of the Sciots, relying on their having taken no share in the insurrectionary proceedings, remained behind after the town of Scio had been deserted by most of its inhabitants. These persons were immediately sacrificed by the Turks, whereas the more manly and patriotic inhabitants who had retreated to the hills, not only escaped the fury of their barbarous enemies, but were afterwards enabled to cut off numbers of them, when they began to spread themselves over the Island. The mild manner in which war is usually carried on in the west of Europe, though a great good in itself, is not certainly very favourable to patriotism. Armies have been taught to advance through an enemy's country with as much regularity as if it were their own, supplying their wants by requisitions addressed to the local constituted authorities; and the inhabitants, except in a few cases, of which entering a town by assault is one, are in little fear for their personal safety. This humanity has in its turn given to an apathy and indifference unknown in ancient times, when slavery or death was generally the portion of the vanquished. With this alternative staring him in the face, the citizen was forced to become a patriot. The Turks understand the art of making patriots as well as any people who ever existed, and by teaching their enemies that submission is sure to be followed by destruction, while resistance holds out a chance of safety, they are pretty certain to experience no want of the latter. — Indeed, after the lessons which the Greeks have had, one is astonished that any part of the Sciots could have thrown themselves on the mercy of the Turks, but this island was in the enjoyment of peculiar privileges, and knew less of Turkish brutality than any of the others, and this may account in some measure for the partial infatuation.—The example, however, will assuredly not be thrown away.

The members of the Holy Alliance, whom the Greek insurrection has hitherto kept in a state of the most painful apprehension, begin now to breathe again. There is now every reason to believe, they say, that tranquillity will not be disturbed in the East, the meaning of which is, that every obstacle in the way of the Turks has been removed, and nothing will occur in the East to aid the people of the West in the recovery of their liberties. — They have now their hands free they think for consummating the plans which were formed at Laybach. We do not hesitate saying that we can hardly conceive any price too high for the great object of breaking up this accursed alliance.

The Greeks could only gain by the dissolution of the confederacy; but we speak not for the Greeks alone; we see the population of some of the finest regions of Europe looking anxiously forward to the first favourable moment for bursting asunder their chains; and they must be slaves in heart who can contemplate this with indifference. The money changers, the men who are deeply interested in the fate of Russian, Austrian, or Neapolitan Stocks cannot of course be supposed to entertain these views. It is natural that they should arraign whatever promises to ameliorate the condition of the nations, that they should dread an alteration of the present order of things, that they should look only to the security of legitimacy, and call all those who are not equally smitten with the love of that species of forced tranquillity which we witness in so many places, "Politicians of the BONAPARTIST School." It is natural that they should flatter and cajole the man whose interest at the present moment clashes with the interests of the other Legitimates, that they should now praise him for his want of ambition as they may afterwards laugh at him for his folly. They know right well that interests of the grossest nature can alone find an entrance into the bosoms of the miserable beings, for whose sakes the nations are now sacrificed:—that while they are calling out tranquillity and order, they are all the while busied in sowing war and discord in the provinces of a nation which set so noble, and to their grief, for a long time or times, so successful an example of regeneration.

If they know this, they may be assured that the people also know it.—*Morning Chronicle.*

Dublin, June 20.—The following communication was received yesterday from the Mansion-house:—

"The committee appointed for the relief of the poor in the distressed districts are under the painful but imperious necessity

of informing the public, that all the accounts from the various parts of the country concur in stating that famine and disease are every where rapidly on the increase, and have already reached a height which is truly alarming—numbers dead and dying from hunger and typhus fever. The funds of the committee are now nearly exhausted, and it is indispensably necessary that they should be augmented, otherwise thousands must inevitably perish. In such an awful emergency, it is the bounden duty of all persons to make the utmost exertion to save the lives of their fellow-creatures. With that view, the committee request that collections might be forthwith made in all the churches and chapels, and subscriptions set on foot in every parish throughout Ireland, and most particularly in parts that have not been visited by the present dreadful calamity."

Lieutenant-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty has left his seat of Syndale-house, in Kent, for Ireland, in order to assume the command in chief of that part of the United Kingdom, on the 24th instant, in the room of General Sir David Baird, whose period of service is expired.

The Right Honourable the Lord Provost has this day, Saturday, 22d inst.) received a letter from Lord Melville, intimating that it is his Majesty's intention to visit Scotland this summer, and that he purposes being in Edinburgh on or about the 10th of August. We understand that the races, which were to take place on the 20th of July next, are to be postponed till his Majesty's arrival.—*Edinburgh Courier.*

A Man with Three Wives!!!—For some time past an honest Shoe-maker, John Busbie, has lived in the village of Prestwick Toll, with a woman, whose claims to the honours of his name and his bed remained undisputed till Tuesday last. On that luckless day, the matrimonial happiness of this worthy couple was fated to be disturbed by a circumstance of no common occurrence, being nothing less than the arrival from Glasgow of a pair of frail fair ones, likewise claimants to the hand and the affections of the unfortunate and fickle cordwainer. The appeal of one of these ladies was no doubt rendered doubly powerful by the production of a thumping child, also an aspirant to the name of "glorious John."—Variety is charming, says the old song, and so no doubt thought the Shoe-maker, as he stood like the donkey in the tale between two stacks of hay. However, he resolved upon leaving the still in charge of his "dear first wife," and accompanied the strange ladies into Ayr, where he spent the night. During his absence, the green-eyed monster very naturally got possession of the forsaken one, and on Mr. Busbie's appearance at his habitation on the following morning, with one of the rival queens, a slight squall ensued, in the course of which this enraged son of Crispin discharged a pistol from the window at his rebellious rib, which missed her, but wounded two other women whom the noise had drawn to the spot. A Gentleman who was passing at this time, caused the fellow to be taken into custody, and he was thereafter committed to Ayr goal.—*Ayr and Wighton-shire Courier.*

The Queen of Hingea.—(From a Correspondent).—I went with some friends to view the remains of a Roman Villa at Shurdington (Sir William Hicks's). An aged rustic living hard by was appointed to shew them. On arriving at the spot, our bumpkin antiquarian shewed us into the bath, which he mistook for the portico (the doo-erwany, as he called it). Some debate arose between him and me on the question whether it was a doo-erwany or a bath; to decide the dispute, he fetched from his cottage an engraved plan and description of the basement. Upon looking at them, I asked him where he got them? "Why, zur, a lady gfun un me, un a verry good lady a wur, too; for a ginn mee hauf a ginney, un a put hur name at the bottom—look-ee thaave, zur!" "I see it," said I; "do you know who the lady is?" "No, zur." "Why, she is the Queen of India." "The Queen of Hingea!—what's that, zur?" "India, my friend, is a great country in the East, twenty times as big as England, and she is Queen of it." "Lord, zur, you don't zany zoa now?" "I do say so, indeed." "Well, I never zin a Queen before; huz a verry good Queen, however, un a mighty pretty Queen; bee all the Queens like hur, zur?" "No, my friend, not exactly, I wish they were." "Well, I wish zoa, too, zur, (hitching up his breeches,) un then thu'd be all good uns!!!"

PARLIAMENTARY.

—753—

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 1832.

Numerous petitions against the corn bill, from owners and occupiers of land in different parts of the country, were presented by the Duke of PORTLAND, Lord ERSKINE, Lord ST. GERMAINS, Lord PLYMOUTH, Lord EGREMONT, &c.

Lord ERSKINE presented a petition from the inhabitants of Poplar in favour of the bill for preventing cruelty to animals.

The Marquis of DOWNSHIRE alluded to a misunderstanding of what he had said some time ago when he presented a petition relative to the commissions of inquiry going on in Ireland. What he had then stated in reference to the conduct of the commission for inquiring into the public records of Ireland, had been erroneously applied to the commission for inquiring into the administration of justice. He wished to set this misrepresentation right, as it had occasioned some unpleasant feeling; certainly nothing was farther from his intention than to cast any censure on the latter commission, the labours of which had been highly beneficial. A saving amounting to 81,000*l.* was among the advantages which the public had derived from that inquiry. With regard to the other commission—that for examining the records—it had already, in the course of ten years, occasioned an expense of 110,000*l.* to the public, without any advantage being obtained to compensate for such an expenditure. He had some time ago moved for some returns respecting this commission, and he should be glad to know from the noble earl opposite when they might be expected to be laid before the house.

The Earl of LIVERPOOL concurred with the noble marquis in the terms of approbation with which he had spoken of the usefulness of the commission for inquiring into the administration of justice. He could not account for the delay which had taken place in presenting the returns to which the noble lord had alluded; but he had requested his right hon. friend, the Secretary for Ireland, to write, and direct an inquiry to be made into the subject. Other inquiries had been instituted, from which beneficial effects might be expected. Last year a bill had been brought in to inquire into all the departments connected with the revenue of Ireland.

MARRIAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

The LORD CHANCELLOR rose on the report of the committee on this bill being brought up, and repeated his objections to the retrospective clause. (As the subject has been already so much discussed we do not follow the noble and learned lord in the details of his argument.) He observed among other things, that having opposed this clause in the committee without effect, he now foresaw that the bill would pass with it; but as the insertion of such a clause would establish a precedent for other bills of injurious tendency, it was his intention to record his objections to it on the journals of the house. The noble and learned lord strongly objected to retrospective measures on general principles, and particularly to the retrospective clause in this bill, which went on the principle of giving happiness to the few at the expense of creating unhappiness to the many. He approved of the clause which fixed the future validity of marriages, and he did not doubt that many unfortunate circumstances had attended the law as it stood. Many persons had suffered from their neglects or mistakes. But this afforded no reason for enacting that marriages which would be null and void according to law should become valid. Were this principle to be admitted, it might be proposed to rectify the law with respect to the past on other subjects as well as marriage. Many very unfortunate circumstances occurred in consequence of the state of the law with respect to wills. The noble and learned lord enumerated several cases of great hardship which had occurred in consequence of wills having been found invalid; and reminded their lordships, that though such cases were not rare, Parliament had never thought fit to make them a ground for legislating retrospectively. He wished to know from the noble mover of the bill, why its retrospective enactment had no reference to marriage by bans? Their lordships could not be ignorant of the cases of cruelty which must occur in consequence of such marriages. The husband, by taking out the bans in a false name, might at once degrade his wife, who, in all probability, was ignorant of the fraud, and bastardize his children, who, doubtless, were entirely innocent. Marriages by bans were, under the existing law, in consequence of a fraud of this kind, as voidable as those contracted by license. Why, then, was there no clause to legalize past marriages of this description? Was it that their lordships wished to give the benefit of the bill only to persons in high station, intending to leave those of the middling and lower ranks exposed to all the hardships of the law? The noble and learned lord then proceeded to state the case of parties twice married, in consequence of having discovered that the first marriage was defective. If they had two sons, one before and one after the second marriage, the second son would be the first in law, as the law now stood; but if the original marriage was rendered valid, he would be deprived of his inheritance. In consequence of a younger son succeeding to the

estate of the father, an uncle, who would otherwise have left an estate subject to reversion for this younger son, might be induced to leave it to the elder; but in consequence of the retrospective operation of this bill, the elder son would get both. It was his decided opinion that the tendency of the retrospective part of this bill was most mischievous. It would tend to disturb property and must spread much uneasiness in families. He meant, therefore, to propose some provisos, which, if adopted, would counteract its pernicious effect, and at all events would serve to record his opinion. His lordship then read the provisions which he was prepared to move to be added to the retrospective clause. They provided against the extension of the bill to titles or property under certain circumstances; or to any marriages, in case it should be proved in a court of law, or by judicial proceedings, that the parties had acknowledged their marriage to be invalid soon enough to have rendered their children legitimate by the celebration of another marriage. He also meant to propose a clause, providing that all conveyances of real and personal property made before the passing of this act should be, and remain as good and effectual as if the act had not passed. He had no hope of being able to prevail on their lordships to reject the clause after they had refused to postpone it; but he could not rest satisfied in his own mind without appealing to them once more, and finally recording his vote against the measure on their journals.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH, well knowing the great talents, ability, and authority of the noble and learned lord, could not but entertain strong apprehensions on the subject of the important clause in question when he knew that the noble and learned lord had determined upon strenuously opposing it. But he confessed that his anxiety was considerably diminished since he had heard the objections of the noble and learned lord to this measure. He had greatly feared that the noble and learned lord would in the course of his opposition have hit upon some serious objection which had not occurred to him. This, however, had not been the case, and the failure of the noble and learned lord, notwithstanding all his learning; served to prove that there were questions, of which this was one, in which the heart of youth is wiser than the head of age. In supporting this measure he had always felt, that whatever might be the fate of the retrospective clauses, their lordships would deserve well of their country for enacting the indissolubility of marriage prospectively. But having acknowledged the justice of this enactment for the future, he could not understand how there could be any objection to extending it to past marriages solemnized under the same circumstances. The main objection of the noble lord was now started for the first time. When measures for correcting the effect of the marriage act, in individual cases, had formerly been brought before the house, the noble and learned lord only complained of their frequency, but never said a word about their injurious consequences. He was surprised, therefore, at the new light which had broken in upon the noble and learned lord on this question. He was willing to take into consideration any amendment the noble and learned lord might think necessary, and he had himself prepared a clause to meet the case of the two sons which had been referred to. The present measure would not, as had been asserted, prove beneficial only to a few. It was, on the contrary, framed for the benefit of the many, and it was by making it operate on the past that the future happiness of families would be secured.

The LORD CHANCELLOR intimated, that he wished to confer with the noble lord on the provisos he intended to move, and for that purpose would have them written out; and they might be moved on the third reading.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH had omitted to notice what the noble and learned lord had said on the subject of illegal marriages by bans. He assured him that he was ready to agree to any clause which the noble and learned lord might propose for legalizing such marriages.

The LORD CHANCELLOR moved that the retrospective clause be left out.

The Earl of HARROWBY was friendly to the retrospective clause, as it tended to secure the quiet of families; but there were also cases in which it might disturb that quiet. He therefore thought that if some of the amendments of his noble and learned friend were adopted, the bill would be greatly improved; he therefore wished the amendments to be added to the bill now, because if an opportunity was afforded for fully considering them, it was probable that a greater number of peers would be induced to vote for the clause.

The Earl of LIVERPOOL approved of the retrospective clause; but wished to add an amendment for the purpose of qualifying it with respect to actions now pending in courts of law.

The LORD CHANCELLOR withdrew his motion for leaving out the clause, and a long discussion took place as to whether the question should next be put on the course, or whether noble lords who intended to propose amendments should move them. It was at last determined, that the clause as amended by the committee should stand part of the bill.

The Earl of LIVERPOOL then moved his amendment, the object of which was, to add to the other exceptions made to the retrospective clause one in the following terms: "Nor any marriage respecting the validity of which suits are now pending."

The Marquis of LANSDOWN opposed this amendment. In legalizing marriages, it was proper that their lordships should come to the determination of carrying back the measure to a fixed point. That point, in his opinion, ought to be the state of actual possession of property. Where no judgement in a court of law interfered, the marriage ought to be held good. That suits were pending was not a sufficient ground for departing from the principle of the clause.

The Lord CHANCELLOR supported the amendment, and the Earl of WESTMORLAND opposed it.

After which their lordships divided—

Content, 23—Not Content, 67—Majority against the amendment, 39.

It was understood that during the absence of strangers, the amendments of the Lord Chancellor had been ordered to be printed, in order to their being taken into consideration on a future stage.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH stated that he had three clauses more to propose, but that they were not of a nature to occasion discussion. One related to the marriages of the Royal family.—These clauses were added to the report.

After a long discussion on the future course of proceeding with the bill, in which Lords ELLENBOROUGH, HOLLAND, ROSSLYN, GREY, and others, took a part, it was agreed that the report should be taken into further consideration on Friday, for which day their lordships were ordered to be summoned.—Adjourned.

India House.

A General Court of Directors was held at the India House yesterday, (June 19,) for the purpose of resuming the discussion on those clauses of the Navigation Bill, which affect the trade with and to India. The Chair was taken at 12.

The CHAIRMAN announced the recommendation to pay a Dividend of 5½ per cent. on the Capital Stock. Agreed to, unanimously.

The Report of the Committee on the By Laws was read, and the Committee continued.

The CHAIRMAN then adverted to the special business of the Meeting, which was to resume the consideration of the Bill for consolidating the Acts relating to the Trade of India, and especially that clause of it which went to remove the present restriction, which prevented vessels under 350 tons burden from trading to India. He stated that the Court of Directors had considered the continuation of this restriction proper; but as it had been in some measure rendered nugatory by subsequent Acts of the Legislature, they resolved not to object to it. They had wished, however, to be guided by the opinion of the Court of Proprietors, and for that purpose the last and present Meetings had been held. He knew not how he could bring the matter before them, unless by a motion of concurrence in the proposition of the Board of Control. He would do this, however, merely for the purpose of bringing the subject before them. If the motion were not generally approved, he would not persevere in it; he would merely propose for the purpose that they might discuss. He would propose, "That the Court agree to the repeal of the Act by which vessels under 350 tons burden are prohibited from trading between this country and India." The Honourable Chairman then read the correspondence which had taken place between the Court of Directors and the Board of Trade. He mentioned, that in all the correspondence and communication which the Court of Directors had had with that Board, they had excepted the article of sugar; and that he had received from the Chancellor of the Exchequer a letter, intimating that the present duties were to be continued but for one year, and that the subject would be taken up and fully discussed by a Committee of the House of Commons early in the next Session.

Mr. FORBES, M. P. felt much pleased at the candid and clear manner in which the business had been introduced by the Honourable Chairman; and he hoped that, though he felt it his duty to propose an Amendment to the motion of the Honourable Chairman; he would do it in such a manner as would show that he was far from entertaining any personal hostility to the Honourable Chairman. When the subject was brought before the Court formerly, it had been so fully discussed, that there was no need now of treating it with any great minuteness. He would therefore say, that all which the Company looked for at the hands of his Majesty's Government was merely justice. If they were called upon to surrender a part of their chartered rights, they ought not to do this without some equivalent. They ought to bear in mind that this conduct of theirs was not to affect themselves merely, for it would have an influence upon the condition of 100,000,000 of human beings. He would merely call the attention of the Court to the leading facts, and leave the arguments to Gentlemen who knew the principles and the details better than

he. This was no new question. It had been discussed thirty years ago; and he would beg that the Resolutions of 1792 be read. They were read accordingly. They stated, in substance, that the increase in the price of sugar was owing to the variations in the supply from the West Indies; and that this would be corrected by allowing the sugars of the East Indies to be imported on the same terms, and at the same duties as those of the West. His view of the present case was to propose an Amendment which would be in substance a confirmation of those Resolutions, as he thought they were as applicable to the present time, as to that for which they were passed. There was one general principle from which he thought government could not well dissent; and that was, that the Colony which took most of the manufacture of the mother country ought to enjoy the largest share of protection. He would beg leave to call the attention of the Court to a Meeting of Merchants and others interested in the affairs of India, which had been held on the 19th. All that he would propose, had been fully recognized by that Meeting; and if he was allowed he would read their Resolutions (the Resolutions were read as part of the Honourable Proprietor's speech). There was one objection to the Bill, as at present worded, to which he wished to call particular attention; and that was, that the removal of the prohibition of vessels under 350 tons burden, applied only to British built vessels. It might, for aught he knew, be the intention of the Board of Control, that it should extend to ships built in British India; but certainly the expression went to exclude them. Now though he was willing to admit that the condition of the shipping interest in this country was by no means good, he contended that that of the India shipping was no better; and that, therefore, while Ministers attended to the interests of British shipping, they ought not to overlook those of India. The trade in both countries was equally depressed, or if any one was suffering more than the other, it was India—for in that country the greater part of the ships were laying rotting in the rivers. Now if small ships were allowed to go out to India, and to trade from port to port there, without restriction, they would produce the greatest hardship and misery to the people of that country. They would run away with the most valuable part of the trade; it being well known that small ships could easily procure valuable cargoes, while large ones were not only found to wait longer, but also to take inferior articles, which could not bear to pay so high a freight. Besides this, they would ruin the trade of ship-building in India, and the trade of the country ships, by engaging in the carrying of goods from one port of the country to another. The Company ought not to sacrifice their chartered rights, without a fair equivalent. Besides, the Proprietors had not been duly apprised of the introduction of the Bill, and it had been introduced at too late a period of the Session. On these accounts it should be delayed till the next Session. It seemed that the Board of Control thought very lightly of the Court of Proprietors, and thought they only needed the consent of the Chairman and Court of Directors. The Bill was carried through, too, without any very great respect for its importance; the second having, for instance, been proposed in the House of Commons this morning at one o'clock, and that too when there was in fact no House, only 37 Members being present. The reading had been opposed and put off till Friday; and he would assure the Court, that he would oppose it in every stage, and if possible get it to stand over till next Session (applause). He thought that the questions of the tonnage of the ships, and the duty on sugar, ought not to be separated. They ought to go hand in hand, and if the Company conceded the one, Government ought to concede the other. As for him, he understood that when the law authorizing the free trade with India (a law which had been productive of advantage to both countries) had been passed, it was understood that British ships were not to interfere with the country trade of India, any more than India-built ships were to interfere with the coasting or country trade of Britain. If a Committee of the House of Commons were to take up the sugar question next Session, then the best way would be to postpone the Bill till that Committee had finished its deliberations. He contended that the high duty on East India sugar was unjust, not merely to India, but to the whole consumers of sugar in this country. If, therefore, it were to be delayed till its merits could be fairly discussed, the sense of the people of England would be expressed in Petitions against it. He did not mean that they would beat up for Petitions, and he should be sorry to think of their resorting to such conduct; but he knew that they had only to do, what, he hoped, would be done by the public announcement of their opinions that day, to state that their rights, and the rights of the people had been attempted to be imposed upon, and they would find the public ready to do them justice. He knew that the opinion which he was to state, would not be palatable to the Government, but he must repeat (what he had stated formerly), that there was a bias to others and against them (hear!). He would say this here, and he would say it in the House of Commons, as often as he had occasion. He hoped that through the whole course of his public conduct, no one could accuse him of having advocated private or particular interests in preference to general ones. He hoped, therefore, he would not be misunderstood when he stated, that he wished to see such a Reform in Parliament as would give to the interests of India a more

full and equitable representation, and he trusted he could do thus much without laying himself open to the charge of being a Radical Reformer. The Honourable Proprietor paid some handsome compliments to Mr. C. Grant, for his zeal and attention to the interests of India; and concluded by moving as an Amendment—

“That the existing limitation as to the size of vessels employed in the East India Trade is a part of the compact with the East India Company to which the faith of Parliament is pledged.

“That this Court cannot consent to the relinquishment of this part of the compact, unless reciprocal concessions are obtained, by the restoration of East India-built ships to the right of full British registry, and by the admission of Sugars from British India, for home consumption, on equal terms with Sugars produced in other Dependencies of the British Empire.

“That this Court are induced to adopt these Resolutions, not merely on commercial grounds, as affecting the people of the United Kingdom, but on behalf of one hundred millions of our fellow subjects in India, whose rights and interests are involved therein, and which it is the bounden duty of the East India Company to protect.”

Mr. TRANT thought they were bound to attend to the interests of the British Empire in India, towards which it seemed that the Board of Control did not mind, though they exercised a certain *douce violence*. They did this upon the pretence that the West Indians laboured under certain disadvantages which did not apply to the East; but he knew of no disadvantages which the one laboured under from which the other was exempted. He contended that the introduction of small ships, coupled with the refusal of the importation of sugar, would be ruinous not only to the manufactures, but to the agriculture of India. He knew the distressed state of that country from the falling off of the manufactures. He knew that in Madras alone, five factories, employing 18,000 men each, had recently been stopped; and thus, in this one instance, nearly 100,000 men had been thrown as a burden on the agricultural interest. He gave the Amendment his decided support.

Mr. PETER MOORE was most anxious not to mislead others. He thought that the Court should not allow the Board of Control to depreciate the contract. He thought it right to encourage the private trader by every fair means; but it ought not to be done in such a way, or to such an extent, as to injure the interests of India and of this country at the same time. It had been the opinion of Mr. Fox, and of the other great Whig leaders, that the interests of India and of this country had been sacrificed for those of the West India Colonies. They had declared that the East Indies, if properly attended to, would be of the utmost importance to this country; and that the advantages of India, if properly improved, might be the means of paying the national debt. They had marked the vast difference in the expense of procuring sugar in the East Indies and in the West. In the West Indies it was almost 5½d. a pound, while in the East it was not more than one halfpenny. This difference was owing to the sugar in the one country being produced by Slaves, and in the other by freemen. If we were to have none but West India sugar in this country, then there would, of necessity, be an increase of the home trade; and under such an encouragement it was in vain to talk of the abolition of that traffic.

Mr. CARRUTHERS rose and caught the eye of the Chairman, but at the same instant Mr. S. Dixon began to speak. The Chairman called him to order.

Mr. DIXON—“I rose not to speak—I rose only to ask a question.” He wished to ask the Honourable Proprietor (Mr. Moore), if he had said that slaves were now imported directly to the British colonies?

Mr. P. MOORE replied, that they were imported first to the Havannah.

Mr. CARRUTHERS would speak his mind to any man, be he high, be he base. He thought the Court bound to attend to the interests of the West Indians; they ought to consider the question not as it affected the interests of resident manufacturers and traders, but as it affected those of Stock Proprietors; and if it could be shown not to hurt the Stock Proprietors, he did not see how the Court could object to it. He would support the original motion. If India shipping were to enjoy the full advantages of registers, it would be most injurious to the shipping of this country; and they ought not to injure the mother country for the sake of the colonies.

Mr. TUCKER felt pleased with the numbers and respectability of the Court. They had both Greeks and Trojans—both East Indians and West. To all, however, he was anxious to address what was reason and truth. He thought the Court had a right to assist the Legislature, and ought to have been consulted by the Directors. He would not take the metaphysical part of political economy out of the hands of Mr. Ricardo; but he would state some simple principles of commerce. There were some lands which afforded no rent, and the sugar estates of the West Indies were many of them of this description. The rents of these West India estates were therefore paid either by the British public or by the

East India trader. This was borne out by the opinions of Ricardo, Mill, and others, the first men of the day. It was most unfair to allow such a difference in the duty upon sugars from the East Indies and from the West, considering that in 1813, the difference was only 3s. in the cwt. If the East Indians were not allowed to pay any part of their dues in kind, they could not be expected to pay long in the precious metals. If they had to import bullion, they would soon produce a scarcity which would produce low prices and ruin to them. The Chairman had, at a former Meeting, given a flattering account of the surplus out of which the Stock Proprietors' dividend was to be paid; but if they had to import the Sicca rupee at 1s. 10d. in stead of importing goods, by which it would be worth 2s. 6d., the profits of the Stock Proprietor must be reduced to little or nothing. If this were the case, a depreciated paper currency might be introduced into India, the consequences of which would be lamentable. With regard to the question of the shipping, although it had been ably advocated, he would be for giving it up, provided that the Company got a small share of justice in return. There was this objection to small ships, however, that they would not be so well acquainted with the seas, or so well navigated. Still he would not object to it on general principles. He complimented Mr. Forbes for the interest which he took in the affairs of the Company, supported his Resolutions, and called upon other Honourable Proprietors to do the same. He was particularly pressing upon one gentleman (Mr. Alexander, we understood); and in order to induce him to address the Court, quoted a passage of Homer, in the original Greek, giving at the same time Pope's translation.

The CHAIRMAN here intimated, that he had just received a communication from the President of the Board of Trade, intimating, that in consequence of the lateness of the season it was intended to omit all clauses in the Bill to which there would be serious objections on the part of the Court; and that it was intended to postpone to next Session the clause which allowed a direct trade to India with the British colonies in the West Indies and North America. Under such circumstances, it was expected that the clause relating to the removal of the restriction on the ships would meet with no opposition.

Mr. TWINING thought, that notwithstanding this communication, it would be as well to discuss the matter before the meeting. The Hon. Proprietor then quoted some Latin, hoping that he would be pardoned after another Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Tucker) had quoted a more learned language (Mr. Tucker said he had given a translation of his Greek). He (Mr. Twining) did not see why the Board of Control should not take time to discuss the proposal made to them by the Court. In all its bearings this was one of the most important questions that could come before the Court.

Mr. C. GRANT wished first to call the attention of the Court to the state of India, as brought under the arbitrary power of the greater state. This was evinced by the great increase that had taken place in the exportation of British manufactures. Our duties had not only excluded the cottons of India from our markets, but had made us exporters to a great extent. The Government laid a duty upon the manufactures of India, and would not allow the Indian Government to impose a countervailing duty. This was very hard. In the case of the sugars the effect was the same. By these means we injured our own trade with India. True, we sent many things which the people of that country were willing to take, but then, as we would take none of their goods in return, they were unable to pay. It was unfair to put a burden on one part of our dependencies for the sake of relieving another. As to the ships again, it was clear that the coasting trade ought not to be interfered with; and he (Mr. Grant) remembered well that that was the opinion of Ministers at the time when the Act opening the Trade to India was passed. It was found, however, that it would be so construed as to admit of that interference, and that being the case, the interference followed as a matter of course. If, however, the Board of Control asked the Court to concede this matter, there could be no impropriety in asking an equivalent. All the points should be stood upon. He concurred as to the little Representation which India had in the House of Commons; he thought all the evils of India owing to those who had advocated the Opening of the Trade.—They had been hurried on by passion, and had not given to all the circumstances that consideration which they merited. He trusted, however, that the general feeling of the Court now would be to watch over the interests of India.

Mr. WEETIG regretted that the Chairman had made the motion for approval of the proposal of the Board of Trade. He thought the question of the sugar would be more easily carried than that of the shipping. The difference of the duty was a bonus of 30,000l. a year against the Company. That question, if contended for must be ultimately carried, because the public had an interest in it.

Mr. R. JACKSON thought that the question ought to bear the investigation of the impartial, and that their decision on it should be such that they could identify themselves with the public. The admission of small ships into the country trade of India ought not to be admitted,

as it would admit innumerable, incomprehensible, and indescribable persons to the shores of India; and make those shores be visited by mongrel persons from all parts of Europe. Though conquest had made India ours, we ought not to subject it to grinding oppression. The Court ought to pause ere they conceded any thing to Government. They ought to reflect that the intercourse between the East Indies and the Colonies in the West, was but to be suspended till next Session. They ought to reflect upon the diminution which would take place in the value of every thing returned from India. They ought to pause ere they made one of the greatest articles of Indian produce (sugar, we suppose) a dead letter. It was not fair to levy only six per cent. on our exports to them, and impose about 70 on their imports to us. Why not make both equal? At any rate why not adjourn the business till they had the advantage of the Marquess of Hastings? If the restriction was odious, it had been five times re-enacted, and one of those times so lately as last Session of Parliament. If they could not accomplish every thing they wished, much might be done without a numerical equality of duty; and he thought they should at any rate record the Amendment.

Mr. GAHAGAN read (*amid cries of "Question!"*) some extracts of the opinions of the Lords and Commons (confounding the one with the other), tending to show that it was the opinion of certain illustrious Persons, that it would be better to register India built ships than to prevent British ones of small tonnage from visiting India. The Honourable Proprietor proceeded at some length, but at last sat down *amid cries of "Question!"*

Mr. MONEY could not see why India ships should be singled out and denied the advantages of a register, while those of Demerara, Canada, and the other colonies in the West, were admitted to all the advantages of it. This was the more to be regretted, that the India ships had at one time been of great use to the British navy, when the French commander in the Indian seas had by his skill nearly put himself upon an equality with the British. The British imports to the East Indies were almost double those to the West.

Mr. EDMONSTONE begged leave to say, that if this country were long to treat India unfairly, India would not long continue to bear it. If the Court did not relieve them, they would take means for relieving themselves. There was an engine even now at work to effect a separation of India from this country. The effort of the freedom of the press was to make them imitate the example of North and of South America.

The CHAIRMAN doubted the prudence of the last Speaker, and thought he had better have been silent. The doctrine of resistance on the part of the Indians had better not have been mentioned. He acknowledged that the resistance of the proposal of the Government by the Court of Directors was of very little importance. He quoted the third Report of the last Sessions Committee on Foreign Trade, to show that when Mr. Grant was examined as to the effects that would result from the employment of small ships in the trade to India, Mr. Grant had said that the only danger would be that of an increase of smuggling. He had brought forward his motion merely for the purpose of exciting discussion. The former discussion had been of great use, and he hoped this would be of the same. From the feeling that he saw in the Court, he would withdraw cheerfully his motion, and give his support to the Amendment. They were thus all on one side. He would mention, that when he had put it directly to Lord Liverpool, whether the measures of Government were intended to give the West Indian a preference over the East, his Lordship had candidly allowed that they were.

Mr. GRANT defended his consistency.

Mr. FORBES congratulated the Chairman on the result to which the discussion had led.

The Resolutions proposed by Mr. Forbes were then so modified as to appear as an original motion; after which they were carried unanimously; and at five o'clock the Court broke up.

DEATHS.

On the 4th of June, at the advanced age of 93, Mrs. Marjory Chalmers, relict of Wm. Cochrane, Esq. of Newton.

At Dumfries, on the 7th of June, James Heron, Esq. of Drumcoltra.

At Taynish, in Argyleshire, on the 9th of June, Duncan Campbell, Esq. of Ross, in the 60th year of his age.

At Westquarter House, on the 4th of June, Julia, third daughter of Colonel Burnet of Gadgirth, Ayrshire.

At Symington, on the 6th of June, John Thomas, infant son of Lieut. Colonel Pringle of Symington.

At his House, New Street, Edinburgh, on the 7th of June, the Rev. Wm. Dunn.

At Leith, on the 6th of June, Mr. William Shirving, late of Kildaw Bank.

Military Despotism.

"We put down military despotism without any selfish motive and by the Wisdom of the British Constitution."—Mr. PLUNKETT, MORNING CHRONICLE 17th June.—

The CONSTITUTION'S wisdom—true,
The sword's despotic power o'erthrew;*
But mark—for 'tis material,
And full as evident and plain,
That, down, 'twas soon set up again
By wisdom MINISTERIAL!

Just so we read in Holy Writ,
A Devil once compell'd to quit,
And seek a region warmer,
Returned, and loving well the game,
With seven other Devils came,
More wicked than the former!

THE TEARS OF SCIO.

Fair Scio! where that beauteous dawn arose
Of high intelligence, beneath whose light
Men bowed at Freedom's altars, thy wild rocks
Glittered in the first radiance of that morn.
Then laugh'd thy vallies and thy blossom'd fields,
And the clear wave flow'd musical around;—
Oh! then the hymn of Liberty was heard,
Swelling in grandeur on the island breeze,
Not like that syren-song Ulysses fled,
Seducing virtue by a sweet deceit,
Enchantingly inglorious; but so tun'd
To holy themes and manliness of thought,
As breath'd a generous vigour, and the life
Of gallant deeds, like Glory's charmed voice,
Then rose the Spirit of the lyre—
The sightless Bard of an immortal song—
Sweet-voiced and deep Historian of far times—
Prophet of glories to arising world,
He came—the gold-like Homer! in the power
Of lofty inspiration, and awoke
The Epic strings with such a wondrous tone,
That, like the Music of the Spheres, flows on
As lasting as the motion of the world!

And he was Scio's child, in that far time
When mighty nations slumbered in the gloom
Of the mind's chaos and the forests' shades,
As if the living fire of soul was not!

Fair Scio, thou hast fall'n!—Unfettered now
Of Freedom's children in the lands of light,
Who learn'd of thee, and of thy kindred Isles,
To burst the bonds of Ignorance, and chase
Its ghastly terrors from the soaring mind.

Barbarian hands have smote thee.—In the hour
Of peace their rushing wrath swept o'er the land,
Wing'd, like the Simoom, suddenly for death;
Steeping grey hairs in blood—giving the limbs
Of youth to torture—and the beauteous forms
Of Grecian maidens to the spoiler's grasp.
This England saw, and felt not!—Christian land!
She saw the Cross dishonour'd, and the fires
Of Christian temples quench'd in Christian blood;
And yet she felt not! or her only thought
Was how to crush, by secret, cruel arts,
The spirit calling for revenge on Greece!

Oh! England, Queen of Ocean—once belov'd
By all who worshipp'd Freedom—once believed
By all, who sigh'd to serve her; thou hast lost
What kingdoms can't repay thee—generous fame!
Thy virtue has departed—thy proud deeds
Are wither'd in the taint of selfish hopes,
And martyrs to that cause, which once was thine,
Die, breathing curses on thy broken faith;—
For thou hast leagu'd with bar'rous foes of mind,
And Monarchs jealous of the manly soul,
To blast the fairest lands of all the earth
With the dark curse of ignorance and chains!

Oh! England, Queen of Ocean, conquest-crown'd!
Remember Babylon with all her pride—
Her merchant-utricles, and her purple state—
Remember Babylon! where Mammon rul'd,
And his rich-chimney flax'd boundles splendour round,
Where, silently, the desert-bird reigns now!

* To Europe on this occasion it might very well have been observed:—"Quid te exempta juvat spinis de pluribus una?"

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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Supplementary Remarks.

The FRIEND to Mr. BURCKHARDT, in two Letters which appeared in the BULL. on Monday and yesterday, with a perseverance that may be very honourable to his fidelity in a cause by which he is determined to stick, whether right or wrong, but which is little creditable to his judgement, has introduced some points that only deserve attention, because in a Defence so full and perfect as that which I have had the happiness to produce, it is desirable to leave no single loop hole for escape.

The general merits and great basis of the questions at issue, have long since been abandoned by my Opponents, who have done nothing to shake the mass of Evidence produced by me to shew Mr. Banks and Mr. Burckhardt in their true colours. The utmost they had been able to do is to fasten on some minor matters, of no value or importance on the general estimate of the whole question; but I shall not even leave them the satisfaction of establishing one of these.

The first of the minor points adverted to is this. In one of the excellent Letters of MISO-CANT, was the following sentence:

"One particular charge (of Shiek Ibrahim) was grounded on remarks casually made by Mr. Babington about the joint expenses of their voyage, in which he afterwards found he was mistaken and wrote to correct the erroneous impression he might have occasioned. The Shiek retained his charge, while by the very terms he used of "brushing up a bill of fare to balance arrears," he betrays that he had received the explanation."

"In this extract (says the FRIEND to BURCKHARDT) a most artful attempt is made to prove that Mr. Burckhardt must have received a full explanation from Mr. Babington," &c. and after calling this a "most detestable attempt," he adds "I believe most firmly that no explanation was ever given."

What he may believe, or what he may not believe, is of no importance to any one in a case depending on fact and evidence. The expression "brushing up a bill of fare," was gathered from Mr. Burckhardt's Reply, which Mr. Babington acknowledges to have seen before he wrote his Refutation, and this indeed proves that he did see it, since his Friend acknowledges that it was first used in that Document. But as to the explanation having been made, whatever the FRIEND of BURCKHARDT may pretend to believe, fortunately for us, the fact is on record, and rests on the testimony of Mr. Babington himself, who in his Letter to his Brother, (already twice published), speaks of this explanation in the following paragraph:—

"I am sorry to observe, however, that all which is advanced, as well as respecting my opinion of Mr. Buckingham as on the state of our accounts, cannot but be *willful* misrepresentation; for no sooner did I arrive in Alexandria, and discovered the error I laboured under, than I wrote to Shiek Ibrahim, acquainting him in a detailed manner with the circumstance, and stating the confirmed belief I had in my companion's integrity."

What more need be said on so plain a point? The person who must be the best possible judge of that disputed point declares that he *did* make the explanation alluded to, and all his subsequent conduct confirms it. Mr. Burckhardt, bent upon my defamation, of course found it inconvenient to his purpose to retract his charge; and his injudicious Friend, to bear him out, now says that he *does not believe* the explanation was ever given! Very good, let him enjoy his disbelief in company with the FRIEND of BANKES who also said with regard to other persons being satisfied that he *did not believe* it. There can be no convincing such men, and their disbelief proves nothing but their own blindness and obstinacy.

The next point in the Monday's Letter is an insinuation (on the authority of Mr. Burckhardt only, however, whose testimony on such a point can be of no value, even if he were an honorable man), that I received certain provisions from other friends *gratis*, and then retailed them again at a cost to my generous companion. It will be seen by a reference to the Letter just quoted from, that this is answered by anticipation, and it is surprising that any one who had read that Letter could think of bringing up such a point again. Even had the provisions for the voyage been given to me as supposed, I should have been as

fully justified in considering them in the estimate of my share of the expence of our voyage, as if £100 in money had been given me, and I had expended it conjointly with another. But the truth is that they were not given to me: but the Bills for them were paid by my Friend Mr. Wedderburn in Bombay, on the same conditions that I accepted his kind aid in money, namely, to be repaid again the moment I had the means: and in point of fact, the amount of these Bills for provisions, as well as the money loans, have all been repaid by me long ago, tho' I am not the less grateful to the friends who helped me in the hour of need.

The next point is an useless attempt to correct in an Erratum, the word *Eastward* for *Westward*; while the sense of the passage in which that correction is desired to be made remains the same.

In a Note to one of the previous Letters of THE FRIEND to BURCKHARDT, where his object is to prove that I did not prosecute my Journey in a faithful manner, but often went in the very opposite direction to that in which any business lay, he says that I visited Persepolis (which is somewhat to the Eastward of Shiraz, tho' in the high road to it from Ispahan) and from Shiraz *Eastward again* to the ruins of Shapoor, while under an engagement to make the shortest route to India. The Erratum, in which he desires us to read *Westward* for *Eastward* is therefore of no use whatever while the rest of the passage remains. If Shapoor had been *Eastward* of Shiraz, while my route ought to have been *Westward* to Bushire, I should of course have gone out of my way, and hence deserved the blame imputed to me in that paragraph. But as Shapoor is not only *Westward* of Shiraz, but close to the direct road from that place to Bushire, the alteration of the bearing from *Eastward* to *Westward* shews that the assertion of the whole paragraph was wrong, and that I was really pursuing the shortest and most direct route in my journey!

In the Letter published yesterday, THE FRIEND to BURCKHARDT begins with the following modest and singularly accurate statement:—

"You must allow me a place in your columns (those of JOHN BULL) to say a few words to the JOURNALIST's voluminous Defence of yesterday. Mr. Buckingham has considered it quite unnecessary to ATTEMPT ANY THING LIKE A DEFENCE of his conduct in ONE PRINCIPAL POINT, because he knew it was impossible to succeed in so far imposing on our judgments; I MEAN, THE INJURY HE DID TO THE MEMORY OF THE LATE MR. BURCKHARDT."

Would any one believe it possible, that a man in his senses, after reading a Defence in which several pages are given to this very topic, could coolly assert on the following day, that I had not even attempted any thing like a Defence of my conduct on that very point, which occupies a prominent part of the whole? This may pass very well on the half-dozen persons (if there be so many) who read JOHN BULL, and will not see the JOURNAL; but if the Friend to Burckhardt were to attempt to persuade the people of India that I had published no Defence at all, he would be just as much believed, as in asserting that in that Defence I had studiously avoided the very point on which I have said most. There is certainly no accounting for the obliquity of some men's sight or understanding; but such a want of both, as this short paragraph exhibits, it has never before been my lot to meet with.

After saying what I had *not* attempted to defend, Mr. Burckhardt's advocate comes to notice what I *did* attempt; and in this he is almost more unfortunate than before. Speaking of my Defence, he says,—

"He makes, however, A MOST LABORIOUS ATTEMPT TO PROVE, that I, who accused him of this and many other iniquities, MUST BE CRIMINAL, BECAUSE I WAS FORMERLY ON TERMS OF INTIMACY WITH HIMSELF."

This is really still worse than the former paragraph. In that, he laboured only under the misfortune of not seeing what *did* exist, and must have been visible to every one but himself; but in this, he has the greater misfortune of seeing what *never did* exist, and which no vision but his own could discover!

My object in shewing the friendly intercourse that subsisted between all the three Worthies and myself up to the period of

our last parting, on terms of professed friendship, was simply this:—to prove that from all which Mr. Burckhardt knew of me, up to the day of my leaving Alexandria, he believed me to be an honorable man; from all that Mr. Bankes knew of me up to period of our friendly parting at Aleppo, he believed the same; and from all that Captain Boog knew of me up to the period of our taking mutual leave of each other in Bombay, he believed me also not only an honorable, but an unjustly calumniated and injured man. Had it been deeds done *subsequent* to these separations which formed the basis of the charges against me, their former good opinions would have been of no value; but nearly the whole of these charges were made up of transactions and events which had *before* received the sanction and favourable opinion of the very persons who afterwards chose to torture these same actions into deeds of the blackest dye.

The FRIEND to BURCKHARDT next says that he does not recognize, in my Reply to Mr. Burckhardt, the Letter which he took, and of which it professes to be a correct copy;—but the only shew of justification that he offers for this opinion is that the closing paragraphs were dissimilar.

The Paper from which I have printed this Reply is the Original Draft from which the Fair Copy sent was made, and it bears upon its face (as all may see who desire it) marks of passages and words struck out and others written in their stead in more places than one. I am ready to swear to the fact of its being to the best of my knowledge and belief a true counterpart of the one sent. Whether all the alterations of expression made in the one were also marked in other, I cannot at this distance of time take upon me to say;—but that the facts, the explanations, and the whole of the Documents were in substance the same, and strictly correspond to each other, I am convinced; and until some better proof than a pretended Extract of one portion only, which we have no means of verifying, be produced, no weight can be attached to any attempts to invalidate its general fidelity.

There is one peculiar feature, however, in this point, which sets the fairness of my Opponents in its true light. The closing paragraph of the letter, as I printed it, is not objected to on the score of its spirit or tendency; while the new turn of expression in the other, which is pretended to be more accurate, was quoted some days since in JOHN BULL to prove something like an admission on my own part of my being a "villain." Yet supposing this last to be the reading of the version that Captain Boog took with him for delivery, it is clear that he then thought it not only an innocent but in all respects a proper and a satisfactory Letter (be it what it might), for he admits this in his Letter of yesterday, by the following confession:

"I never disapproved, nor do I now, of Mr. Buckingham's having accepted money from Sheik Ibrahim; and when I saw the 'Paper on Buckingham,' and read only Mr. Buckingham's exculpatory Letter, I certainly then considered him to be a most injured man, and with this persuasion on my mind, I remained as before his firm friend."

Here then is an admission, that of all which Captain Boog knew (and much of what was in the "Paper on Buckingham," referred to transactions at Jedda, of which he was a witness,) he approved; and that my explanations appeared to him quite satisfactory, even supposing my Letter to have closed with the paragraph, according to his new reading—since urged against me as an admission of my own guilt.

Mr. Burckhardt's Reply, it seems, was the chief difficulty:—but if this made Captain Boog such a convert, as to enable him to believe as true, even those portions of the Original Paper, which he himself before knew, and even now admits, that he considered to be false, he must have had great faith indeed. I can only oppose to his credulity on this subject, the firm and faithful conduct of many of my best friends, and above all the excellent Letter of Mr. Babington, written *after* he had seen that Reply, and after being in full possession of all that had been urged on both sides.

Thus, if arguments and facts are to be the only things considered, I have them largely on my side; and if the names of

known and respected individuals are to weigh in the scale, I have still a preponderance in my favor. What more can I need?

The last point deserving notice, is an attempt to invalidate the accuracy of my private Journals, by saying that the account I have given of the money lent me by Mr. Burckhardt, being brought on board by another person at Jedda, is quite at variance with the fact as it really happened; since Mr. Burckhardt to his "FRIEND's" positive knowledge, brought it off to the Ship himself, and delivered it personally two or three days before he left Jedda.

Whose testimony is of most value in this case, the Public will decide. I could gain nothing by mis-stating such a plain fact in writing at the time, and still less by doing so in print six years afterwards. My opponent, however, has every thing to gain by decrying my testimony; for his avowed and only object is to shake that, and to shew it to be unworthy of credit. Placing bare assertion against bare assertion only, nothing but character and probable motive can guide others in deciding which is right. Those who desire to see me discomfited will probably receive my opponent's statement as the true one; those who think me more worthy of credit will as readily believe mine; but it is impartial and unbiassed men that I am most desirous of convincing, and they will I hope hold the scales of Justice with an even hand.

The truth of the case is, that Mr. Burckhardt's solicitations to press his money on me was not confined to one, nor two, nor three visits, but urged on me from time to time with an earnestness that bespoke a determination to make me yield. In the course of our stay at Jedda, the money was once brought on board, I do not know in what quantity, but I believe the whole 600 Dollars, as Mr. Burckhardt repeatedly declared he did not need any of them, having been before presented (as his Friend will no doubt recollect,) with new clothes and money as a gift from Mohammed Ali Pasha at Taefa, which he did not think it dishonorable to accept, and which (the clothes) he then wore during his stay with us on board the Ship. I was however, as firm in my refusal, as Mr. Burckhardt was pressing in his desire to make me receive the money, and the bag was taken on shore again unopened. On his *first* parting with us (as he believed finally) on the 3rd of December (mentioned in the CALCUTTA JOURNAL of Nov. 27, 1818) he again pressed the money and I again resisted. It was only on the 7th of December (after his unexpected return to us) that his picture of what I might suffer, and what injustice I should do him if I did not consent to receive his assistance, induced me to say that if he insisted on it, and was quite sure that he would not be inconvenienced, it would give me pain to do any thing that might seem to him as doubting his sincerity or his generosity. I yielded to his solicitations thus far, therefore, in as much as relenting from my former fixed determination might be so called; though at the same time, as there was no more said of this until the money was sent, I was still surprised and overcome with gratitude at the performance of the act.

The simile by which Mr. Burckhardt afterwards illustrates my repeated refusals, is, I admit, an unfeeling and discreditable one, and such as could only have occurred to a man deeply and familiarly conversant with those scenes of depravity from which such a simile could alone have been drawn. But if it be bad, the greater shame to him who first used it: my excuse for doing so was the importance to my case of shewing that he admitted that I *had* made such refusals, and to shew in what a state his mind must have been to have characterized them in such a language as he had used.

JOHN BULL, however, who seldom touches on any thing that he does not render ridiculous by his manner of treating it, passes over the Defence altogether, as a matter in which he is not at all concerned, since *he* (gentle innocent!) never interfered in the discussion, excepting only on one occasion; and says, that there is not a single man in Calcutta who would so far outrage public feeling as to place one particular page of it (p. 714) into the hands of his female relatives: and if any thing could add to the scorn, disgust, and disdain, which *he* felt on reading this

most shameful violation of common decency, it was the consideration that it was *avowedly* offered to public notice on a Sunday!

JOHN BULL's notions of the "VERUM ATQUE DECENS" are too well known to deceive any one at this time of day. A Paper that can admit such charges against individuals as that of cool and deliberate seduction, which are as false as every thing else from the same source, and are put forth boldly only because of the known difficulty of doing more than giving them a solemn denial,—A Paper whose pages have teemed with indecencies from the English BULL against the female relatives of persons well known and esteemed in our limited society, of noble families, but Whigs in politics,—A Paper that has had more indecent jests in it since its commencement, without provocation or motive beyond the mere wantonness of a depraved taste, than any other in India,—to cry out against the use of a simile, emanating from the pure heart and imagination of a Saint who died and requested to be laid in his grave as a Mohammedan, though surrounded by Christians and Friends, whose bones the Saints of the East would canonize, and whose pious memory Christians have undertaken to defend! This is indeed something new. If to repeat the simile was criminal in me, what must be the sentence on the mind depraved enough to invent it? If Christians are to be roused to indignation at my breach of the Sabbath, by asking them to read my Defence on such a day, what are they to be called on to express towards Mr. Burkhardt's breach of every precept and every profession of their religion, abandoning it altogether, and dying in the Mahometan faith? On what are they to say to JOHN BULL himself for the habitual violation of the Sabbath as often as it occurs, by keeping his Printers, who are Christians, at work on that day, and labouring himself in his vocation to get out his Slandrous Sheet on the Monday following?

The Public of India are now, I hope, fully satisfied as to the shallowness of all the charges set up against me, from the first and most material of them, down to the last and most ridiculous of all—the breach of the Sabbath—my Establishment being one of the very few in Calcutta in which that day is observed as a day of rest, and entire abstinence from business of every kind. It must be therefore quite unnecessary to trouble them again with any address in my own name, or even to speak Editorially on this exhausted subject of the Travels and Travellers in Palestine, and their misguided Friends in Bengal. Those who have not by this time made up their minds on my guilt or innocence, would never do so; and those who can resist the evidence that has already been produced, would not yield to the voice of one who arose from the dead. A Court of Justice will very shortly have to decide the truth or falsehood of certain crimes that are said to be proved, by those who would no doubt be very happy at seeing their proofs admitted. Farther discussion therefore must be quite useless: and as the Friend of Mr. Burkhardt in taking leave of me, says he can anticipate the abuse which will flow from my pen during his early absence from Calcutta, I shall have great pleasure in disappointing his expectations, and desire never to have occasion again to revert to his name or opinions; since it has never been my object to abuse *any one*, but merely to shew that their abuse of me was not worthy of credit. From the testimonies flowing in upon me on all sides, even while I write, I know that I have succeeded in doing this; and leaving to others the protection and defence of their own characters, if I have rescued mine from one of the foulest and most rancorous attempts that has ever yet been made to ruin it:—if I have come out from a fiery furnace, seven times heated, with less injury than hundreds of men who bear good names in society, could do, if every act of their private life, from boyhood to middle age, were sifted in the same manner:—if I have shewn that tho' my life has been chequered with poverty, sufferings, dangers, and persecutions, I have yet lived usefully, and fallen into fewer errors than most men under similar temptations might yield to:—I am satisfied, and shall look back to the storms of the past, as only giving greater zest to the tranquil happiness of the future.

J. S. BUCKINGHAM.

Cato's Essays.

No. IV.—SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1822.

Good Chronicler, I love thee!—MANDEVILLE.

Having resolved to make myself better acquainted with Squire Mandeville, whom I introduced to my readers in my last number, I paid him a visit before sun-rise yesterday. Like a true philosopher, he had been up long previously; and I found him in bed-clothes, walking on the lofty terrace of his three storied mansion.

He expressed great pleasure at the favour I conferred on him, by calling to see him. After some conversation, "Mr. Cato, (says he.) I remember you mentioned, that you have such a multiplicity of business to attend, that you sometimes forget composing your lucubrations, and sometimes neglect sending them to the Press, when they are composed. Now, I have some thing of consequence to tell you. As I was going out the other afternoon, I saw a rumpled sheet of paper lying in a corner of the street.—I am naturally inquisitive.—On picking it up, what do you think I found it was? Faith! nothing less than a neatly—I do assure you, very neatly written epistle from a griffin spinster in this Metropolis, to a friend at home. "Ha! ha! (cried I,) putting it into my breeches pocket,) 'this shall save Cato, the labour of one night, and enable him to favour me with his company.'" Then, assuming an haughty air, and affecting an imperious tone, "I command you, (adds he.) to publish this in your next. I bowed in silence, intimating implicit obedience to his will and pleasure.

I have since examined this paper; but, entertaining too great a respect for my friend, to criticise what he has pronounced to be good, I give the following Letter to the discerning Public, and leave its merits, and the propriety of the squire's commands to insert it in this Essay, to the decision of more competent judges in these matters than myself,—the FAIR.

"—Well! my dear Virginia! here I am, seated in a bare white walled room, in the fourth story of the house. This is my Library, child! and hither I retire, like a hermit to his cell, and far above 'the madding crowd,' hold communion with the mighty dead, or with my own mind. Oft do I muse on those in my native place, how different from this, and, alas! (my bosom heaves, my heart is bursting at the thought,) how far, far away!!—Indeed, my dear, I never felt myself so great a patriot as I now do. Believe me,

"Where'er I go, whatever climes I see,

My heart, untravell'd, fondly turns to thee,"—

turns to her who gave me birth, who reared me in her arms, to my sisters and brothers,—to all the dear, dear playmates of childish days!—dear girl, I feel the tears of sorrow rolling fast down my discoloured cheek. I told you in my last, I tell you now, and will do so again and again, that if I had my will, I would gladly exchange all the crowns and sceptres of Hindoostan, for the mansion of my forefathers,—the lovely, enchanting scenes where I spent days long since gone by!—But, away with this philosophic melancholy!

I will give you an account of a ball I was at, last night.

The invitations, (printed remarkably neat and fine,) were sent to us about a week ago. In consequence of the warning, suitable dresses were prepared, and this, it must be owned, cost no little pains.—But, all was absolutely necessary; for at the great Connah, all the gentry of the place were expected to appear, and to be in fancy dresses. Pahaw! how can you know what *connah* means? I should have told you it literally signifies meals, and is a word in general use here among the whites.

At length the night, the important night approached! I have such a stupid black maid—goodness! what a careless creature. After sitting at my toilette from tiffin, three o'clock in the afternoon, to nearly eight, I could not satisfy myself, and at last stepped into the coach with not little vexation.

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On our entering the gates of our inviter, the porter announced the circumstance to those within, by striking a gong. A parcel of gentlemen met us at the door of our conveyance, and handed us up-stairs, over-whelming us on the way with compliments.

Being introduced in the hall, we made up to the ladies, who were sitting *tete a tete* in a corner. We kissed, and all that, as you know our tender sex should do. From the manner, in which I found all the company on our entrance, I was persuaded there had been great pulling up of collars, adjusting of cravats, wiping of faces, shifting of combs, and (what you may be surprised at, but I am sure it was the case,) much throbbing of hearts. Every eye was soon on our dress—examining it nicely. I affected great ease, and felt as if a load was removed from my head, when the arrival of more company diverted general attention from your poor Maria. We were engaged in chatting of public matters, and there was brought on the carpet, much of an ingredient of the conversation of our sex, *scandal*! Do not frown child. Ha—a! a very fine compliment, surely. What will Jenny and Ellen say on reading this? what means will you devise of escaping that merciless satirist—young Somerset Conway?

But to proceed. We danced some—country and Spanish dances and—quadrilles, and waltzed for some time 'on the light fantastic toe.' It was the hapless fate of your friend to be always coupled with those beings—insects. I don't know what to call them. You are aware that from the bottom of my soul, I despise all those who go under the various names of fop, buck, beau, dandy, (this last a modern epithet.)

At half past nine we were called to a large table covered with fruit, cakes, sweetmeats and every procurable dainty of the sort, as well as tea and coffee. The sight of profusion palls the appetite; and so I found it, for the plates and dishes were removed nearly as full as they came.

We then arose, and footed away again. Lord! Lord! what buffoonery there was, not to use a harder term. Many of the old gentlemen were simpering, and mimicking youth. The young ones were constantly adjusting their dress, perfuming, playing with their watch-seals, and parading about, joking, and laughing in our faces. How disgusting this—but this does not exist here alone; impudence and folly are found in every clime—and often alas! are we necessitated to tolerate them.

The young ladies, related to the rich or great, are desirous of having in their train, Civilians of all ages, and look contemptuously on many an humble and amiable man, merely because, (as I learnt on the other occasions,) it is his fate to wear a red coat.—I know not what has caused the great revolution in manners, which at present exists—in Homer's times, 'the fair were ever to the soldier kind!'—Those who have neither birth to boast of, or fortune to give, content themselves with the admiration of the poor sons of the blade.—I must not forget to observe that ranks are rigidly observed here; in the highest are the proud Merchants of the Company—they are generally called *Civilians*.

At one, dinner, (supper rather,) was spread on the board,—great and good it indeed was; but somehow or other, the guests seemed to require a dose of bitters each. There was a fine dessert also!

So much for the Ball and Supper!

I have a world of news to communicate yet. Lord Hastings is expected to embark for his native land, on New-year's day. I am no politician I assure you, but I will inform you of rumours afloat. This nobleman is, taking him all in all, certainly a brave, good, and able, man. He distinguished himself at Bonker's Hill; during the French Revolution, he threw open, in imitation of his illustrious ancestors, the gates of hospitality to emigrants; and, he has been the means of acquiring territory *et cetera* in India, where he has ruled many years; O that good deeds could shine in this naughty world! But, my dear, there are bad hearted people every where, who eagerly seize the defects inse-

parable from human nature, and expose them. "Men's vices we write on brass, their virtues we write in water!"

"There are addresses, balls, plays and concerts in plenty now. If God grant me health, I shall be at them all, and not fail to give accounts of them to my dear Virginia."

"But, child, my paper is now finished. Do, sometimes think of me. Give my love give every thing that is affectionate to all my family, and believe me,

My dearest Virginia, your affectionate friend,

MARIA.

N. B.—I have been rather free in this letter: take care, dear, that it does not stand up in judgment against me."

Coroner's Inquest.

That obstinacy and incapacity should be closely allied, will excite no wonder; but we never saw its union so complete as in the present Editor of JOHN BULL. He is incapable of comprehending the plainest matter of reasoning; and what is demonstrative to other minds, is to his nothing. His obstinacy is just in the same proportion, and accordingly we have the Coroner's Inquest of last year, and all the contradictory Statements respecting it, brought forward, and the changes rung upon it day after day, to very surfeit: so that if it be protracted much longer, it will really verify the Fable which we quoted a day or two ago, and prove that in a Coroner's eye there is nothing half so important as an Inquest.

What do the Public need more than we have already said? We have told them, we have told JOHN BULL, we have told Mr. Fallon himself, in person, and by words not to be misunderstood, that his Defence was actually revising for the Press, and would have been printed but that it was withdrawn at his own request. We have two English Gentlemen ready to attest the fact: one has already done so to the Editor of JOHN BULL in a Private Letter, of which he has furnished us a Copy: the other asserted to Mr. Fallon in his own presence that he knew and would attest the fact of the withdrawal alluded to. Mr. Fallon may have forgotten this: and JOHN BULL may not choose to believe it: but this is of no importance whatever to us, nor can it alter the facts of the case in the slightest degree. We content ourselves by giving the Letter in which the Enclosure was contained. JOHN BULL may publish both it and the Private Letter alluded to, if thinks proper; but as he has hitherto published our own "Defence," though his Paper so readily gave place to all the accusations which it has so successfully refuted, we neither expect that nor any other act of impartial justice from his hands. The Letter is as follows:

To the Editor of the Journal.

MY DEAR SIR,

I beg leave to enclose a Copy of a Letter I yesterday addressed to the Editor of JOHN BULL, respecting your alleged refusal to publish a Reply on the part of Mr. Fallon to the Letter signed "ONE OF THE FORTY," containing explanations of the circumstances that ought to satisfy any reasonable mind, and I therefore hope that the Editor of JOHN BULL will now do you the justice to confess that the charges made against you in reference to that affair rest on no good foundation.

Your's Faithfully,

Dec. 24, 1822.

CALCUTTA BAZAR RATES, DECEMBER 24, 1822.

	BUY	SELL
Remittable Loans,	Rs. 23 0	22 8
Unremittable ditto,	15 4	14 12
Bills of Exchange on the Court of Directors, for } 12 Months, dated 30th of June 1822,	30 0	29 0
Ditto, for 18 Months, dated 30th of April, 1822,	27 0	26 0
Bank Shares,	5200 0	5000 0
Spanish Dollars, per 100,	206 0	205 0
Notes of Good Houses, for 6 Months, bearing Interest, at 5 per cent.		
Government Bills, Discount,	at 3-8 per cent.	

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—761—

Cato's Essays.

No. V.—WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1822.

Hark! a glad voice the lonely desert cheers,
'Prepare the way, a God! a God appears!'—POPE.

"Glory to Jehovah; joy to the sons of men! This day is born a God, the long-promised Saviour of the world! A great light shines amid the darkness, and will guide all feet into the ways of Peace. The Temple of the Lord is erected on the high mountains, and all nations shall flow unto it. The lion and the lamb shall lie down together: the weapons of the warrior shall be converted into implements of the husbandman; and nation war against nation no more!—Glory to Jehovah; joy to the sons of men!"

Such was the anthem, which gladdened the listening ear of silent night, when the Angelic host, appearing to the shepherds on the olive-covered plains of Bethlehem, announced the tidings of the birth of the Deity!

The present season is commonly devoted, particularly in India, not to the solemn joy, (if I may use the expression,) which becomes the followers of Christ; but to the folly of levity and the brutality of intemperance. I am no preacher; however, let me exhort every one, to snatch an hour, one short hour, and unite with me in 'heavenly musing.'

Infidelity has in these times, made very alarming efforts. Voltaire, Hume, Payne, and others, High-priests in the Fane of Scepticism, are followed by numbers of weak, ignorant, unthinking, or wicked people. It is, therefore, an indispensable duty, to use every means to stem the strong current. I feel it, as blasphemy, even to mention the demoniac attempts of unbelievers; however, I must devote this paper to the consideration of them.

In treating this subject, I shall confine myself to a point from which a strong evidence may be adduced of the truth of our holy religion: I mean the comparison of Christ, with the founders of the principal sects and religions of the world.

The idolatries of Greece and Rome were devoted to deities and demigods, who are represented as engaging in a long series of absurd or licentious adventures. The Elysian fields, (as described by the poets,) excite no very ardent desire to gain access to them; for, the bad passions are said to retain there, the influence which they possessed over the mind in this world.—The sages of ancient times, are well worthy of the fame they acquired. Let us cursorily examine their doctrines. To attain Happiness was the common end and aim of being. See what directions are given for this purpose. One says, *Live while you Live*: that is, enjoy as much of the pleasures of this world as you can. But, it ought to have been considered, that excess soon palls the appetite, enfeebles the frame, and is a sure source of misery. Another enjoins us, to *consider pain as no evil*. From the weakness of human nature, I doubt whether this precept was much, if ever, reduced to practice. Even the admirable piece of morality, by some ascribed to Solon, by some to the Delphic oracle, *Know Thyself*, cannot afford consolation in the season of affliction, and the hour of Death. Socrates is almost deserving of a Christian's praise: he taught the Immortality of the Soul—but he left much, very much, undone. On the whole, if true pleasure was sought by these directions, the search would be in vain; the mind would be like a guideless traveller, in a desert; like a vessel on the wide seas, without chart or compass! *Probatum est*.

To many of the precepts contained in the Shastras, the highest praise is due. We cannot help admiring the ancient legislators of the Hindoos; when we see in this country large tribes who never touch as food any thing that has had life, nor harm the meanest insect; when we find great avenues of trees planted, reservoirs of water dug, and choultries erected, in dreary jungles, for the use of the Traveller.—But all this is much overbalanced, by other dogmas of theirs. I need not mention

more than one—that is, the Burning of Widows! The mind startles and revolts at the thought, and no degree of familiarity with the custom, can lessen this great effect.

I cannot omit this opportunity of digressing a little. Of all foreigners in this country, the British have paid the least attention to the conversion of the Natives. The Portuguese, by sending hither a great number of Missionaries, brought over multitudes of Natives to Christianity—but, they used that diabolical engine of priestly power, the Inquisition. The Dutch made a grand attempt to convert the inhabitants of their dominions in Ceylon. When I was at the fine and considerable city of Pondicherry, I was informed that more than half of the Natives there were Christians. But what have the British done? Comparatively, very little. I hope, however, that the good which may be achieved, by the late established College for Natives, and the great influx into all parts of India, of dissenting Missionaries of various Societies, will soon remove from our character something of the stigma.

Next, consider the life and character of the Arabian prophet, or, more properly, Impostor. See Mahomet in robes of Majesty, with the sword in one hand and the Koran in the other. See his wives, and a long train of women, to gratify his lust. See his barbarously ferocious armies of slaves, marching over the fairest countries of the world, with famine in the van and desolation in the rear! What does the prophet offer to his followers, after death? Mere sensual gratifications; green and scarlet clothing, delightful gardens, cool springs, black-eyed virgins, ever beautiful and ever young; and such things.

Now, turn to Christ. From the beginning of the world, the most unequivocal prophecies existed respecting the coming of the Messiah. Isaiah strikingly points him out; and so does even a profane author of Rome, copying from the books of the Sybils. Indeed, at the time our Saviour was born, there was a general expectation of some great event being at hand.—The Temple of Janus was shut, and the Prince of Peace appeared! But, the Jews who hoped for one, with great temporal power, to deliver them from the bondage they were then suffering, were exasperated on beholding the mean appearance of Christ. He was the son of a carpenter, and, if I mistake not, for a while followed the profession of his father. He had no views of worldly things: his disciples were a few low, obscure individuals, and he himself often knew not where to lay his head. They went about doing good; healing the sick, instructing the ignorant, strengthening the weak-hearted, praying for the sinful, and blessing the servants of the true God. Christ taught every thing that can render human nature amiable, and enforced the precepts by his own example; for, when he was reviled, he reviled not again, when persecuted, persecuted not. He declared the mercy of God, which would pardon the most heinous crimes, if repeated of, and receive the righteous into those eternal regions, where grief is not, and the weary are at rest. Thus was filled the grand desideratum; and the mind, tossing like a bark on the stormy ocean may at length find an haven in the bosom of God! Considering Christ as a mere man, well might we bestow on him the epithets, *Wonderful and Counsellor*.

See him on his last stage. While agonizing on the cross—in that hour, when the whole Universe shook, and all Heaven was in tears—what language do we hear? "*Father! forgive them, for they know not what they do!*" Glorious clemency! —Yes! THERE IS A GOD. All Nature declares this great truth: it is vain—it is madness to dispute it; and, from what has been said, Reason and Virtue are obliged to exclaim with one voice—Surely, THIS IS THE SON OF GOD!!

Administrations to Estates.

Miss Elizabeth Forbes, deceased—Mrs. Maria Van Sandan.
Mrs. Elizabeth Francis, late of Calcutta, Widow, deceased—Mr. Manoel José Mascarenhas.
Mr. Samuel Nicholls, of Calcutta, deceased—Mrs. Mary Nicholls.
Mr. James Middleton, late of the Town of Calcutta, deceased—Mr. s. Emblyn Edwards Middleton, and Mr. George Thorpe.

Native Public Meeting.

We are now happy to be able to present our readers with a Report of the Proceedings of the Public Meeting of Natives at the Town Hall on Saturday last.

A Report has appeared in a cotemporary paper, which we would willingly have adopted, but that from the circumstance of the proceedings being conducted in the *Bengalee Language*, an *English Reporter* must we suspect have had much difficulty in obtaining an exact account of them. The following Report being drawn up by the Natives themselves, and signed by the Chairman, may be fully relied as fair as it goes. Some particulars that have been omitted, we shall here supply.

At the **FOURTH RESOLVE** in the Report which regards the secure enjoyment of Religious Liberty, it might have been stated that **RADAKANT DEB**, the great Champion of **SCETTES**—the Advocate General and rallying point of the Supporters of this practice,—in high-flowing language worthy of a Hindoo Orator enliterated the Marquess of Hastings for having prevented the abolition of the **SACRED RIGHT of Burning Widows Alive**; the Orator inspired with pure religious zeal gloried in the fact that this illustrious Nobleman had protected this ancient and venerable custom to the *shame and confusion of its Opponents!!!*

This, we understand, is as near as possible the precise meaning of part of his harangue; but we have not heard whether or not it was received with *hear! hear!!* or other expressions of approbation from the Native audience, which consisted, it is said, of between thirty and forty of the most opulent class, and mostly, if not all, staunch Supporters of the Hindoo Religion as it is, and who consequently have as great a horror at the word "Reform" as any Tory in the world! How will this be received in the British Parliament, where it will probably ere long be quoted—when mention is made there of the benevolent exertions making to improve the Natives of India?

We now subjoin the Native Report of the proceedings signed by the Chairman.

CALCUTTA, TOWN HALL, DECEMBER 21, 1822.

In pursuance of the Notice published by the Sheriff, a Meeting of the Principal Native Inhabitants of Calcutta, was this-day held at the Town Hall, for the purpose of considering in what manner the Native Inhabitants of this place may best express their sentiment of regret on the approaching departure of the Most Noble the **MARQUESS OF HASTINGS** from India.

By desire of the Sheriff, **RUSOMOY DUTT** read the Requisition, and explained the same in the *Bengalee Language* to the Meeting, which having been thus opened, he said that the first step to be taken was to appoint a Chairman to preside.

RAMCOMUL SEIN then moved, that **HURRYMOHUN TAKOOR** be requested to take the Chair, which was seconded by **RADACANT DEB**, and unanimously agreed to.

The **CHAIRMAN** informed the Meeting, the object for which they were assembled, and requested permission to submit for their consideration the Draft of an Address to the Marquess of Hastings, expressive of the sentiments of regret of the Native Inhabitants of this place, on His Lordship's approaching departure; which having been read by the Chairman—it was moved by

RUSOMOY DUTT, seconded by **RAMCOMUL SEIN**, and unanimously

Resolved 1st.—That the Address which has been submitted, be approved of.

After the Address had been approved of, and the above Resolution passed by the General Meeting,—

RADAMADUB BONNERGIE proposed that some of the Gentlemen present, should form into a Committee, to amend or alter the Address then read, which motion was opposed by

RUSOMOY DUTT, who said, that as the Address had been approved of by the General Meeting, it could not again be altered. If he (**R. B.**) had any thing to propose, he should have come forward and stated the same before the Address was carried. This was also the sense of the great majority of the Meeting, and the motion was of course negatived. **RAMCOMUL SEIN** here observed, that he should have been glad to vote for the motion, and ask some competent Gentlemen to form a Committee for farther discussing the Address; but as the interval between this and his Lordship's departure is short, he was afraid that there was not sufficient time to prepare another. He therefore voted for the adoption of the present Address, and conceived further discussion on this subject unnecessary.

Moved by **RUSOMOY DUTT**, seconded by **RAMCOMUL SEIN**, and unanimously—

Resolved 2d.—That the Address just read and approved of, be signed by the Gentlemen present, and that it be sent to the other Native Gentlemen Inhabitants of Calcutta, (who have not been able to attend the Meeting) for their signature.

Moved by **RAMCOMUL SEIN**, seconded by **RUSOMOY DUTT**, and unanimously,—

Resolved 3d.—That a Committee be appointed to wait upon the Persian Secretary to Government to ascertain what day it will be most agreeable to the Most Noble the Marquess of Hastings to receive the Address, and that the following Gentlemen be appointed a Committee for that purpose, viz.

GOPEE MOHUN DEB, **RAMRUTTON MULICK,**
HURRY MOHUN TAKOOR, **AND**
RADAMADUB BONNERGIE, **COSSINAUTH GOSSAUL.**

RADAMADUB BONNERGIE said, a simple Address not being sufficient to express the sentiments of gratitude, respect, and attachment of the Native Inhabitants, due to Lord Hastings as their Governor General he would propose, that a **Triumphal Arch** should be erected at **Chand-paul Ghant**, as a further mark of respect to His Lordship. This motion was seconded by **LADLEY MOHUN TAKOOR**, but was negatived by a large majority.

GOPEEKISSEN DEB then moved that a **Marble Statue** of the Marquess of Hastings should be erected and fixed upon the Arch just before mentioned; which motion, not being seconded by any one, fell to the ground.

Moved by **RADACANT DEB**, seconded by **WOMANUNDON TAKOOR**, and by a majority—

Resolved 4th.—That the grateful thanks of the Native Inhabitants of this country is due to the Most Noble the Marquess of Hastings for his Lordship's liberal and judicious views of their Religious Liberty.

Moved by **RUSOMOY DUTT**, seconded by **RADACANT DEB** and unanimously,—

Resolved 5th.—That the thanks of this Meeting be presented to the Sheriff.

Moved by **RAMCOMUL SEIN**, seconded by **RUSOMOY DUTT**, and unanimously,—

Resolved 6th.—That the thanks of this Meeting be presented to the Chairman, **Bahon HURRYMOHUN TAKOOR.**

(Signed) **HURRYMOHUN TAKOOR, CHAIRMAN.**

Latest Prices of Indian Produce.

Commercial.—The following is a copy of a Letter received by a Commercial House here, and kindly handed to us for publication:—

137, Fenchurch Street, London, 11th July, 1822.

"We beg to acquaint you that the Company's Sale of 2232 Chests of Indigo, which commenced on the 9th instant, has this day terminated.

"The Bulk of the Sale consisted of fine and good shipping Indigos, and went off steadily; the fine being of superior quality to any in the January Sale, may be considered as proportionately rather lower; the good and fair went at January, prices up to 4d. per lb. advance; the middling and common consuming qualities, of which the proportion was unusually small, sold from 6d. to 9d. the ordinary, and low about 3d. per lb. higher. There was only 82 Chests of Madras Indigo in the sale, which sold from 9d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. higher; not more than 3000 Chests are supposed to have been retained by the Proprietors.

"The general result of this Sale has been decidedly satisfactory; and there appears no reason to apprehend any unfavourable change in the market throughout the present year. We remain, respectfully,

Your most obedt. Servants.

(Signed) **HALLIDAY & THOMAS, Sworn Brokers.**

Prices Current at the Sale of 2232 Chests of Indigo, held at the East India House, from 9th to 11th July, 1822.

PROMPT, SEPTEMBER 27, 1822.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Bengal, Blue and Purple, fine,	11	6	a	11 9
Purple and Violet, fine,	10	11	a	11 4
Violet, fine,	10	9	a	11 3
Middling to good,	10	4	a	10 8
Reddish Violet, fine,	10	8	a	11 1
Middling to good,	10	0	a	10 6
Coppery Violet, fine,	10	3	a	10 6
Middling to good,	9	8	a	10 2
Copper, Strong to good,	10	0	a	10 4
Fair Middling,	9	3	a	9 9
Common and Ordinary,	7	11	a	9 2
Violet copper pale, lean, and mixt with dross	4	11	a	7 4
Pale Earthly dross,	2	0	a	2 4
Madras, Violet to Reddish violet, middling to fair, ..	7	6	a	8 11
Violet and coppery, middling partly pale, ..	6	4	a	7 5

(Signed) **HALLIDAY & THOMAS, Sworn Brokers,**

London, July 11, 1822.

[Harkaru,

Bombay Orders.

General Orders by the Commander in Chief, Head-quarters, Bombay, Friday, Nov. 29, 1822.

The Commander in Chief has much gratification in publishing to the Army the following Order by the Hon'ble the Governor in Council in acknowledgement of the Services and Merits of Lieut. Col. the Hon'ble L. Stanhope, of his Majesty's 17th Regiment of Light Dragoons, while employed in the Army of this Presidency for upwards of nine years.

Bombay Castle, November 25, 1822.

Lieutenant Colonel the Hon'ble Lincoln Stanhope of His Majesty's 17th Light Dragoons, having obtained leave of the Most Noble the Commander in Chief to precede the Regiment on its return to Europe, his appointment of Inspector of Cavalry will terminate from the day of his embarkation.

The Hon'ble the Governor in Council cannot allow Lt. Col. Stanhope, to leave India, without conveying to him some public testimonial of his meritorious services during that great proportion of a period of nine years, it has been that Officer's good fortune to act as Commanding the Northern Division of Guzerat (since 1817,) or in the Field in a sphere beyond the limits of Regimental duty.

During 1815 and the four succeeding years he was second in command in the different services that took place in the Northern Provinces of this Presidency, under Major General Sir William Grant Keir, and the late Colonels Holmes and East.

In 1818, he commanded an Expedition sent to subdue the Cooly Tribes in the Northern frontier of Guzerat.—In 1820, a large Corps of observation in Cutch was placed under his orders, and in the same year he commanded an expedition against the rebel Chiefs of Kattywar.

His services have already been acknowledged and rewarded by the approbation of the Governor General of India, as well as by this Government; and it only remains for the Governor in Council to express his unqualified applause of the zeal, gallantry, and judgment which have on all occasions distinguished the Military and Political conduct and arrangements of Lieutenant Colonel Stanhope, and for which the best thanks of this Government are due to him.

The Lieutenant Colonel has also a strong claim to its consideration, and which the Governor in Council has much satisfaction in recording. Since the Establishment of the Cavalry of this Presidency in 1818, the organization of that Army has been under his sole direction, and the high and most respectable state of discipline and efficiency to which he brought it in a short time (cheerfully seconded as he has been by those under him) reflects the greatest credit on his unwearied zeal and professional abilities.

The Governor in Council requests Lieutenant Colonel Stanhope to accept the assurance of his respect and esteem, with best wishes for his future prosperity and happiness.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council.

(Signed) J. FARISH, Sec. to Govt.

Agriculture in India.

Sir,

To the Editor of the Bombay Gazette.

That "Agriculture constitutes the wealth of every state, not merely commercial," is an axiom long since established. Every plan, therefore, having for its object the amelioration of the soil, is entitled to consideration: for, should it prove successful, it will ultimately increase the national resources. I know not whether actual experiments, may not already, have rendered part of the following observations superfluous. Being of a general nature, they can do no harm; and may induce others, better acquainted with the state of Agriculture, as it obtains in this country, to come forward with their observations.

Travelling lately, over some apparently fertile land on this Island, I observed an amazing accumulation of decayed vegetables lying dormant in the soil; and I cannot help remarking, that, were calcareous manure applied to such lands, by promoting the decomposition of decayed vegetables, it must add greatly to its fertility. I am unacquainted with the qualities of *Chunam* for agricultural purposes, but being calcinated by a process similar to *Lime*, so much used in Europe, must partake largely of its qualities. And were *Chunam*, applied to such lands, in a state of pulverization, it would act as a powerful agent, in quickening inert matter, promote the decomposition of decayed vegetables, with which much of the soils of this country abound, and render the lands much more productive.

In the Southern Mahratta country, *Dharwar*, the lands are divided into *Musab* (red) soil, and *Regur* (black) soil: the former receives all the putrescent manure, the latter seldom or never gets any dung. Much of the *Regur* lands are lying waste, and overrun with that pernicious weed *Hurgalee*, indigenous to the soil; and requires great expence and labour to extirpate, upon reclaiming the lands. After such lands are reduced to culture, by the process of fallowing, *Chunam*, if procurable, might be advantageously applied as a Chemical agent, to act upon the dormant matter, decompose the decayed vegetables, and increase the productive powers of all such lands.

The writer of this article, is at a loss for want of local knowledge, and a stranger to many of the practices which obtain in India: his acquaintance, however, with the general principles of Agriculture, as practised in the most improved districts of Great Britain, when compared with what obtains here, convinces him, that the productive powers of the soil in this country, is, from imperfect culture, far below mediocrity.

The prejudices of the Natives have often been urged, as a barrier to all innovation from established practices. The natives of most countries are slow in adopting new plans, having only a probable or ultimate profit in view: but the natives of this country are sufficiently alive to their own interest; and will adopt with ardour any plan having a direct view of increasing their income.

Instead, therefore, of torturing invention in schemes of tenures, and settlements but imperfectly understood; and assuming a state of improvement, that neither has, nor can have taken place; it might be of public utility to institute improvements, the result of which would fertilize the soil; and there is little doubt of the co-operation of the natives, if they are allowed to participate in the profits.

When it is considered what indefatigable labour the inhabitants of this country bestow upon the culture of the *Cocoa-nut* tree, beyond the inhabitants of almost any other, having converted it into a valuable article of commerce, little doubt remains of their perseverance and industry. In the West Indies, the *Cocoa-nut* tree grows almost spontaneously, and yet it is rarely applied to purposes of utility. This was so obvious to the patriotic Colonel Walker, who was long resident in India, that he addressed a communication to the President of the Board of Agriculture in Britain, in 1814, suggesting how the *Cocoa-nut* tree might be rendered an article of great utility, by adopting the practices of the East, into the West India Islands. If *Chunam* were applied to lands in this country, as a fertilizer of the soil, expect where irrigation is practiced, there can be little doubt of its success.—I am, Sir, Your's obediently,

Bombay, Dec. 2, 1822.

AGRICOLA.

Bombay Amateurs.

Bombay Amateur Theatre.—By desire and under the immediate Patronage of His Excellency the Commander in Chief, and for the Benefit of the Distressed Irish, on Friday evening the 13th of December, will be performed the Comedy of *The Rivals*.

MEN.

Sir Anthony Absolute, . . .	Captain Stately.
Captain Absolute,	Lieutenant Bell, 1st—6th.
Sir Lucius O'Trigger, . . .	Lieut. Douglas, 20th Regt.
Faulkland,	Ensign Eyre, . . 20th Regt.
Acres,	Lieut. Stanley, 20th Regt.
Fog,	Lieut. Holmes, 20th Regt.
David,	Lieut. Fisk, 17th Lt. Drgs.
Coachman,	Mr. M'Dowall.

WOMEN.

Mrs. Malaprop,	Mr. Stoequeler.
Lydia Languish,	Ens. Maughan, 1st—10th N. I.
Julia,	Mr. Yates.
Lucy,	Mr. Wisencraft.

At the end of the Play, "God Save the King," by the whole Corps Dramatique, after which, a Duet by Lieutenants Stanley and Bell, and Imitations by Lieutenant Bell, to conclude with the Farce of *High Life below Stairs*.

MEN.

Lovey,	Lieut. Douglas, 20th Regt.
Freeman,	Lieut. Holmes, 20th Regt.
Duke's Servant,	Lieutenant Bell, 1st—6th.
Sir Harry's Servant, . . .	Lieut. Stanley, 20th Regt.
Phillip,	Ensign Eyre, 20th Regt.
Tom,	Mr. M'Dowall.
Coachman,	Lieut. Fisk, 17th Lt. Drgs.
Kingston,	Captain Stately.
Robert,	

WOMEN.

Lady Bab's Maid,	Ensign Maughan, 1st—6th.
Lady Charlotte's Maid, . .	Mr. Yates.
Kitty,	Mr. Stoequeler.
Cloe,	Lieut. M'Cleau, 20th Regt.
Cook,	Mr. Wisencraft.

Dress Boxes,	8 Rupees.
Pit, (for this night only,) .	8 Rupees.
Upper Boxes,	5 Rupees.
Gallery,	3 Rupees.

Tickets and places to be had at the Theatre, from 10 till 4 o'clock, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday the 11th, 12th, and 13th instant. By permission of the Honorable Colonel Stanhope, the Band of His Majesty's 17th Light Dragoons will perform.

Doors to be opened at Six and the Performance to commence at Seven o'clock.

No Money will be received at the Doors.—*Bombay Gazette.*

Something Needing Explanation.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

The person who is warmly the FRIEND of the dead, and so bitterly the ENEMY of the living, wrote to you in measured, gentlemanly language, to require that you should (in the instances which he pointed out) do justice to the memory of Mr. BURCKHARDT. You did so without loss of time, on the day after receiving the requisition I believe. A month elapsed, and this FRIEND, as I understand, made no objection to the matter so recorded by you; so that it might fairly have been supposed that he was satisfied. But when the FRIEND OF OR TO Mr. BANKES commenced his attack upon you, then this other FRIEND joined cordially in the hue and cry.

The latter has announced his intended early departure from Calcutta. I wish that a writ of *ne exeat* (either *regnum*, or *regno*, as you please) might issue against him, to remain in force until explained this apparent inconsistency.

Dec. 24, 1822.

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL.

Paste for Dressing Webs.

It is well known, that weavers are obliged to work in damp shops, to prevent the dressing of the web, from drying and hardening. M. Dubue has read lately a Memoir before the Academy of Sciences of Rouen, on the subject of pastes, &c. in which he shews that a very minute addition of muriate of lime to them, renders them so retentive or absorbent of moisture, that webs dressed with such pastes, may be wove in the upper and drier chambers of a house, as well as in the lower, and ill-aired with the usual dressing. The plan is undoubtedly judicious. Muriate of lime may be had at a very trifling expence from those Apothecaries, who prepare water of ammonia. The waste whitening steep of the bleacher is merely a solution of muriate of lime.

Stations of Vessels in the River.

CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 23, 1822.

At Diamond Harbour.—H. C. S. COLDSTREAM.—GOLCONDA. WILLIAM MONEY, and ALMORAH, outward-bound, remain.—LADY FLORA, inward-bound, remains.—NANCY, (F.) outward-bound, remains.—CLYDE, and HERALD, (Amren.) passed down.—UDNY, proceeded down.

Kedgerree.—His Majesty's Frigate GLASGOW.—GENERAL LECOR, (P.) outward-bound, remains.—DUKE OF BEDFORD, proceeded down.—PASCOA, passed down.

New Anchorage.—H. C. Ships PRINCE REGENT, DORSETSHIRE, WARREN HASTINGS, MARCHIONESS OF ELY, WINCHELSEA, and GENERAL HEWITT.

Saugor.—H. C. Ship DAVID SCOTT, inward-bound, remains.—THALIA, gone to Sea.

The Agent for dispatching the Honorable Company's Ship PRINCE REGENT, Captain J. Innes, left Town on the 23d instant, with the Packets of that Ship.

The PERSEVERANCE, Captain Carter, burnt off Turmoan, having been struck by Lightning, all the people saved Captain Carter coming on the ST. ANTHONIO, Captain Spears, from Penang.

Marriages.

On the 15th instant, at St. John's Cathedral, Mr. WILLIAM HENRY KERRY, to Miss CATHERINE McLEAN.

At Malda, on the 12th instant, by the Reverend W. EALES, at the house of W. A. PRINGLE, Esq., G. R. B. BERNEY, Esq. of the Civil Service, to Miss CHARLOTTE DAWNEY.

At Madras, on the 6th instant, at St. George's Church, by the Reverend W. THOMAS, Senior Chaplain, A. CRAWLEY, Esq. of the Honorable Company's Civil Service, to HELEN JANE, youngest Daughter of the late CHARLES MAXTONE, Esq. of the Madras Civil Service.

At Madras, on the 30th ultimo, at St. Mary's Church, at Fort St. George, by the Reverend Mr. LEWIS, Captain R. BOWER, 2d Battalion 8th Regiment of Native Infantry, to Mrs. SOPHIA HESTER SHAW, youngest Daughter of the late J. SHAW, Esq. of Bengal.

Shipping Arrivals.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Dec. 24	Nimrod	British	P. Gordon	Port Jackson	Aug. 19
21	Sarah	British	D. Sterling	Rangoon	Dec. 6

BOMBAY.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Nov. 23	Bombay Merchant	British	J. Hill	Calcutta	Oct. 26
24	H. M. S. Dauntless	British	G. C. Gambier	Tricomalia	Oct. 31
25	Felicitas	British	P. Campbell	Calcutta	Oct. 22
27	Waterloo	British	G. C. P. Living	London	July 15
29	Le Henry	French	Piassard	Bordeaux	Dec. 6
29	Edmonstone	British	Brewer	Mauritius	Oct. 26

Shipping Departures.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Dec. 23	Lotus	British	J. R. F. Doveton	London
23	Agincourt	British	J. Mahon	London
23	Cartron	British	T. McCarthy	Bombay
23	Hydery	British	W. Humble	Persian Gulph
23	Calcutta	British	J. R. Stroyan	Liverpool

Passengers.

Passenger per Ship PASCOA, from Calcutta for China.—Mrs. Cathro. Passengers per Ship CLYDE, from Calcutta for London.—Mrs. Bellamy, Mrs. Buchanan, and Mrs. Foley; Major J. Halford, B. Taylor, Esq. of the Honorable Company's Civil Service; Lieutenant J. Smith—Children: Misses Anna Patretia Turnbull, E. Milne, M. Milne, and Short; Masters Peter Campbell Turnbull, D. Chalmers, C. Chalmers, J. Milne, M. O'Brien, G. O'Brien, J. Breen, E. Wodsworth, M. Wodsworth, G. Wodsworth.—Short, J. Short, G. Wright, and W. Wright.

Passenger per Ship ANN, from Calcutta for Singapore.—Captain Cathcart M. then, 20th Regiment of Native Infantry.

Passengers per Brig CORNELIA, from Calcutta for Madras and Ceylon.—Five Natives.

Passengers per Ship DUKE OF BEDFORD, from Calcutta for Bombay.—Mrs. and Miss Walter, and two Native Servants; five Parsee Merchants.

Passengers per Ship AGINCOURT, from Calcutta for Bencoolen.—Dr. Bell, of the Honorable Company's Service, Nicholas Lambros, Merchant, 32 Men, 8 Women, 4 Children, and one Convict.

Passengers per Ship PRINCE REGENT, from Calcutta for London.—Mrs. Macwhirter, Mrs. J. G. Hope; Dr. Macwhirter, Misses F. H. Macwhirter, G. F. Macwhirter, J. Plowden, and M. Stewart; Masters J. P. Macwhirter, E. Plowden, W. and J. Cunningham, and two Masters Hope; Margaret Fraser, Robert Nighland, and W. Heakes, Servants.

Passengers per Ship BENGAL MERCHANT, from Calcutta for London.—Mrs. Hutton, Mrs. Whyatt, Mrs. Shedden, Mrs. Fuller, Mrs. Wills, Mrs. Sunbolf, and Mrs. Todd; T. Hutton, Esq. A. Dickson, Esq. H. C. M. S., W. P. R. Shedden, Esq. A. Jones, Esq. Captain Fuller, H. M. 59th Regiment, Captain Blair, Artillery, William Harris, Esq. Dr. Cock H. C. Service, Joseph Bidgood, and Briget Bidgood, H. C. Pensioners, Misses Mary Hutton, Cecelia, Sarah Bell Porteous, Eliza Dickson, The; resa Frances Cahill, Mary Jane Cahill, Catherine Neville Whyatt, and Sunbolf; Masters James and Arthur Hutton, John W. Harris, George Neville Whyatt, W. Wills, and Henry Innis; Mrs. Devenary, Servant.

Passengers per Ship ALMORAH, from Calcutta for Ceylon, Bombay, and England.—Captain J. C. Hyde, Horse Artillery, Matthew Mendies, Assistant Surgeon of the H. C. Service; Mary Gilderoy, (Government Passenger for Madras).

Passenger per Ship LOTUS, from Calcutta for England.—Mrs. Thomas Colvin.

Passengers per Ship GOLCONDA, from Calcutta for England.—Mrs. A. Barnes, Mrs. E. Milles, Mrs. C. Neish, Mrs. E. Watson, Mrs. S. Middleton, Mrs. H. Imlach, and Mrs. B. Bryant; J. Barnes, Esq. Surgeon, Bengal Establishment; D. Creagh, George Watson, and James Gray—Children: Misses Shum, Watson, Middleton, Bryant, and D'Aguilar; Masters Larkins, Shum, two Masters Creagh, D'Aguilar, Vincent, Imlach, Watson, Bryant, McDonald, and Neish—Servants: James Hallowell, Sarah Smith, Catherine Darling, and S. Hogasth.

Births.

At Howrah, on the 24th instant, Mrs. R. BAINES, of a Son.

On the 21st instant, Mrs. ANDREW D'SOUZA, of a Son.

At Arcot, on the 29th ultimo, the Lady of G. BAILLIE, Esq. of a Daughter.